

SB1256



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB1256

Introduced 1/24/2025, by Sen. Steve McClure

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/3-616

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-616

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that if a permanently disabled applicant is issued registration plates or a parking decal or device under the Code, the applicant shall submit proof of the applicant's permanent disability once every 5 years. Defines "proof of the applicant's permanent disability".

LRB104 05740 LNS 15770 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
5 changing Section 3-616 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/3-616) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 3-616)

7 Sec. 3-616. Disability license plates.

8 (a) Upon receiving an application for a certificate of
9 registration for a motor vehicle of the first division, a
10 motorcycle, an autocycle, or for a motor vehicle of the second
11 division weighing no more than 8,000 pounds, accompanied with
12 payment of the registration fees required under this Code from
13 a person with disabilities or a person who is deaf or hard of
14 hearing, the Secretary of State, if so requested, shall issue
15 to such person registration plates as provided for in Section
16 3-611, provided that the person with disabilities or person
17 who is deaf or hard of hearing must not be disqualified from
18 obtaining a driver's license under subsection 8 of Section
19 6-103 of this Code, and further provided that any person
20 making such a request must submit a statement, certified by a
21 licensed physician, by a licensed physician assistant, or by a
22 licensed advanced practice registered nurse, to the effect
23 that such person is a person with disabilities as defined by

1 Section 1-159.1 of this Code, or alternatively provide
2 adequate documentation that such person has a Class 1A, Class
3 2A or Type Four disability under the provisions of Section 4A
4 of the Illinois Identification Card Act. For purposes of this
5 Section, an Illinois Person with a Disability Identification
6 Card issued pursuant to the Illinois Identification Card Act
7 indicating that the person thereon named has a disability
8 shall be adequate documentation of such a disability. If a
9 permanently disabled applicant is issued a registration plate
10 under this subsection, the applicant shall submit proof of the
11 applicant's permanent disability once every 5 years.

12 (b) The Secretary shall issue plates under this Section to
13 a parent or legal guardian of a person with disabilities if the
14 person with disabilities has a Class 1A or Class 2A disability
15 as defined in Section 4A of the Illinois Identification Card
16 Act or is a person with disabilities as defined by Section
17 1-159.1 of this Code, and does not possess a vehicle
18 registered in his or her name, provided that the person with
19 disabilities relies frequently on the parent or legal guardian
20 for transportation. Only one vehicle per family may be
21 registered under this subsection, unless the applicant can
22 justify in writing the need for one additional set of plates.
23 Any person requesting special plates under this subsection
24 shall submit such documentation or such physician's, physician
25 assistant's, or advanced practice registered nurse's statement
26 as is required in subsection (a) and a statement describing

1 the circumstances qualifying for issuance of special plates
2 under this subsection. An optometrist may certify a Class 2A
3 Visual Disability, as defined in Section 4A of the Illinois
4 Identification Card Act, for the purpose of qualifying a
5 person with disabilities for special plates under this
6 subsection.

7 (c) The Secretary may issue a parking decal or device to a
8 person with disabilities as defined by Section 1-159.1 without
9 regard to qualification of such person with disabilities for a
10 driver's license or registration of a vehicle by such person
11 with disabilities or such person's immediate family, provided
12 such person with disabilities making such a request has been
13 issued an Illinois Person with a Disability Identification
14 Card indicating that the person named thereon has a Class 1A or
15 Class 2A disability, or alternatively, submits a statement
16 certified by a licensed physician, or by a licensed physician
17 assistant or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse as
18 provided in subsection (a), to the effect that such person is a
19 person with disabilities as defined by Section 1-159.1. An
20 optometrist may certify a Class 2A Visual Disability as
21 defined in Section 4A of the Illinois Identification Card Act
22 for the purpose of qualifying a person with disabilities for a
23 parking decal or device under this subsection. If a
24 permanently disabled applicant is issued a parking decal or
25 device under this subsection, the applicant shall submit proof
26 of the applicant's permanent disability once every 5 years.

1 (d) The Secretary shall prescribe by rules and regulations
2 procedures to certify or re-certify as necessary the
3 eligibility of persons whose disabilities are other than
4 permanent for special plates or parking decals or devices
5 issued under subsections (a), (b) and (c). Except as provided
6 under subsection (f) of this Section, no such special plates,
7 decals or devices shall be issued by the Secretary of State to
8 or on behalf of any person with disabilities unless such
9 person is certified as meeting the definition of a person with
10 disabilities pursuant to Section 1-159.1 or meeting the
11 requirement of a Type Four disability as provided under
12 Section 4A of the Illinois Identification Card Act for the
13 period of time that the physician, or the physician assistant
14 or advanced practice registered nurse as provided in
15 subsection (a), determines the applicant will have the
16 disability, but not to exceed 6 months from the date of
17 certification or recertification.

18 (e) Any person requesting special plates under this
19 Section may also apply to have the special plates
20 personalized, as provided under Section 3-405.1.

21 (f) The Secretary of State, upon application, shall issue
22 disability registration plates or a parking decal to
23 corporations, school districts, State or municipal agencies,
24 limited liability companies, nursing homes, convalescent
25 homes, or special education cooperatives which will transport
26 persons with disabilities. The Secretary shall prescribe by

1 rule a means to certify or re-certify the eligibility of
2 organizations to receive disability plates or decals and to
3 designate which of the 2 person with disabilities emblems
4 shall be placed on qualifying vehicles.

5 (g) The Secretary of State, or his designee, may enter
6 into agreements with other jurisdictions, including foreign
7 jurisdictions, on behalf of this State relating to the
8 extension of parking privileges by such jurisdictions to
9 residents of this State with disabilities who display a
10 special license plate or parking device that contains the
11 International symbol of access on his or her motor vehicle,
12 and to recognize such plates or devices issued by such other
13 jurisdictions. This State shall grant the same parking
14 privileges which are granted to residents of this State with
15 disabilities to any non-resident whose motor vehicle is
16 licensed in another state, district, territory or foreign
17 country if such vehicle displays the international symbol of
18 access or a distinguishing insignia on license plates or
19 parking device issued in accordance with the laws of the
20 non-resident's state, district, territory or foreign country.

21 (h) As used in this Section, "proof of the applicant's
22 permanent disability" means a statement certified by a
23 licensed physician or a licensed advanced practice registered
24 nurse that the person is permanently disabled without a chance
25 of improvement.

26 (Source: P.A. 103-843, eff. 1-1-25.)