

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 3973**

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, October 25, 2017.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Senate Bill relative to handicapped parking (Senate, No. 2178), reports recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 3973.

For the committee,

JEFFREY SÁNCHEZ.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

By striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:—

1           SECTION 1. Section 2 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “handicapped”, in line 303, the  
3 following words:- ; and provided, further, that the registrar may, at the registrar’s discretion,  
4 waive the requirement that an agency of the commonwealth prominently display the name of the  
5 agency on such vehicle. Nothing in this paragraph shall permit any employee of an agency or a  
6 political subdivision of the commonwealth or any organization or institution to park such a  
7 vehicle in a designated handicapped parking space when not transporting handicapped persons.

8           SECTION 2. The ninth paragraph of said section 2 of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is  
9 hereby amended by inserting after the seventh sentence the following sentence:- Obstruction of  
10 the placard number or expiration date, including the failure to display the placard in a way that  
11 makes the placard number or expiration date readily visible through the windshield or the failure  
12 to follow instructions printed on the placard, shall be punished by a fine of \$50.

13           SECTION 3. Said ninth paragraph of said section 2 of said chapter 90, as so appearing,  
14 is hereby further amended by inserting after the eighth sentence the following sentence:- The  
15 registrar may require documents or information from an applicant to verify information

16 contained in an application for a handicapped plate or placard and may refuse to process the  
17 application until such documentation or information is provided to the registrar by the applicant.

18 SECTION 4. Said section 2 of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
19 amended by inserting after the word “space”, in line 330, the following words:- , including the  
20 use or display of a handicapped plate or placard belonging to a deceased person,.

21 SECTION 5 Said section 2 of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
22 amended by striking out, in line 335, the figure “30” and inserting in place thereof the following  
23 figure:- 60.

24 SECTION 6 Said section 2 of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
25 amended by striking out, in line 336, the figure “90” and inserting in place thereof the following  
26 figure:- 120.

27 SECTION 7 The ninth paragraph of said section 2 of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is  
28 hereby amended by inserting after the twelfth sentence the following 6 sentences:- The registrar  
29 may investigate allegations that an individual has falsely obtained a handicapped plate or placard  
30 or is using a handicapped plate or placard without meeting eligibility requirements. The registrar  
31 may, upon a finding of ineligibility or that a handicapped plate or placard was falsely obtained,  
32 revoke the handicapped plate or placard, in addition to any other penalties allowed pursuant to  
33 this chapter. An application for a handicapped plate or placard or a report of a lost or stolen  
34 handicapped plate or placard shall be made under the penalties of perjury. A person who  
35 intentionally makes a false statement related to their eligibility in an application for a  
36 handicapped plate or placard, including for the renewal of a handicapped plate or placard or  
37 when reporting a handicapped plate or placard lost or stolen, shall be subject to a fine of \$500 for

38 a first offense and \$1,000 for a second or subsequent offense. The registrar shall require the  
39 return of a handicapped plate or placard that has been revoked or canceled. Whoever fails to  
40 return a handicapped plate or placard that has been revoked or canceled shall be subject to a fine  
41 of \$100.

42 SECTION 8. Section 24B of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
43 inserting after the word “vehicles”, in line 30, the following words:- , a special parking  
44 identification disability placard.

45 SECTION 9. Said section 24B of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
46 amended by inserting after the word “vehicles”, in line 32, the following words:- , special  
47 parking identification disability placard.

48 SECTION 10. Said section 24B of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
49 amended by inserting after the word “operate”, in line 34, the following words:- , special parking  
50 identification disability placards.

51 SECTION 11 Said section 24B of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
52 amended by inserting after the word “vehicles”, in lines 45 and 50, the following words, in each  
53 instance:- or a special parking identification disability placard.

54 SECTION 12 Said section 24B of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
55 amended by inserting after the word “license”, in line 48, the following words:- , permit or  
56 placard,

57 SECTION 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.