

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 10 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bailey, Bentz, Berger, Boone, Edwards D., Gilman, Kahl, Schaufler, Weidner, Beyer

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires persons applying to renew disabled parking permits to submit a certificate from a licensed medical professional stating that the applicant is a person with a disability. Applies to new and renewed disabled parking permit applications submitted on or after January 1, 2010.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- City of Portland task force recommendation
- Examples of fraudulent use of disabled parking permits
- Importance of ensuring that individuals who need disabled-only spaces have access to them

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Like other states, Oregon allows for special parking privileges for individuals with disabilities. Individuals who are certified by an authorized health care specialist as having a permanent or temporary disability are eligible for a Disabled Person Parking Permit. ORS 801.387 defines "person with a disability" as an individual who has severely limited mobility because of paralysis or loss of use of some or all of their legs or arms, affected by loss of vision or substantial loss of visual acuity or visual field, or any other disability that prevents them from walking without the use of an assistive device or that causes them to be unable to walk more than 200 feet. The Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) of the Oregon Department of Transportation issues several types of permits; some are temporary and valid for the length of time the physician deems necessary, not to exceed six months, while others are renewable when the individual renews their driver license.

Current law requires individuals seeking to renew their Disabled Person Parking Permit to sign a statement certifying that they are still qualified to hold the permit. Senate Bill 937-A requires that renewal of a Disabled Person Parking Permit include a signed statement from a licensed medical professional that the individual in question still qualifies for the permit.