

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: SB 350

SPONSOR: Senator Futch

SUBJECT: Parking Permits for Disabled Persons

DATE: December 3, 2001 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	McAuliffe	Meyer	TR	Favorable
2.	_____	_____	CA	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill expands the persons who may certify a person as disabled for the purposes of acquiring a parking permit for disabled persons to include an advanced registered nurse practitioner in a facility operated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs under the protocol of a licensed physician or by a physician assistant in a facility operated the by United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

This bill substantially amends section 320.0848 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Section 320.0848, F.S., provides for the issuance of parking permits for disabled persons. The section provides that to be considered for a parking permit for disabled persons, the applicant must be legally blind or have a condition which renders them unable to walk 200 feet without stopping to rest. Such conditions are the inability to walk without an assistance device, the need to permanently use a wheelchair, respiratory disease, the use of portable oxygen, cardiac condition, or arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.

The section provides certification of such a disability must be provided by a physician, podiatrist, or an optometrist licensed in Florida, or by the Adjudication Office of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Further, an out-of-state physician may certify patients as disabled if the application is accompanied by documentation of the physician's licensure in the other state and a form signed by the out-of-state physician verifying his or her knowledge of Florida's eligibility guidelines.

Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 320.0848, F.S., is amended to expand the persons who may certify a person as disabled for the purposes of acquiring a parking permit for disabled persons to include an advanced registered nurse practitioner in a facility operated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs under the protocol of a licensed physician, or by a physician assistant in a facility operated the by United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

A physicians assistant is defined in s. 458.347, F.S., as a person who is a graduate of an approved program or its equivalent or meets standards approved by the boards and is licensed to perform medical services delegated by the supervising physician. An advanced registered nurse practitioner is defined in s. 464.003, F.S., as any person licensed in this state to practice professional nursing and certified in advanced or specialized nursing.

III. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

IV. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

V. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VI. Related Issues:

None.

VII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
