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An act relating to disabled parking permits; amending s. 320.0848, F.S.; authorizing certain veterans to provide the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles alternative documentation for renewal or replacement of a disabled parking permit; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) of subsection (2) of section 320.0848, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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320.0848 Persons who have disabilities; issuance of disabled parking permits; temporary permits; permits for certain providers of transportation services to persons who have disabilities.—

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(d) Beginning October 1, 2012, The department shall renew the disabled parking permit of any person certified as permanently disabled on the application if the person provides a certificate of disability issued within the last 12 months pursuant to this subsection. A veteran who has been previously evaluated and certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected disability may provide a United States Department of Veterans Affairs Form Letter 27-333, or its equivalent, issued within the last 12 months in lieu of a certificate of disability.

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(2) DISABLED PARKING PERMIT; PERSONS WITH LONG-TERM MOBILITY PROBLEMS.—

(d) If an applicant who is a disabled veteran, is a resident of this state, has been honorably discharged, and either has been determined by the Department of Defense or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a service-connected disability rating for compensation of 50 percent or greater or has been determined to have a service-connected disability rating of 50 percent or greater and is in receipt of both disability retirement pay from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, he or she must still provide a signed physician's statement of qualification for the disabled parking permits.

(d) (e) To obtain a replacement for a disabled parking permit that has been lost or stolen, a person must submit an application on a form prescribed by the department, provide a certificate of disability issued within the last 12 months pursuant to subsection (1), and pay a replacement fee in the amount of \$1, to be retained by the issuing agency. If the person submits with the application a police report documenting that the permit was stolen, there is no replacement fee. A veteran who has been previously evaluated and certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected disability may provide a United States Department of Veterans Affairs Form Letter 27-333, or its equivalent, issued within the last 12 months in lieu of a certificate of disability.

(e) (f) A person who qualifies for a disabled parking permit

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under this section may be issued an international wheelchair user symbol license plate under s. 320.0843 in lieu of the disabled parking permit; or, if the person qualifies for a "DV" license plate under s. 320.084, such a license plate may be issued to him or her in lieu of a disabled parking permit.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.