1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to motor vehicles; amending s. 320.06, 3 F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to establish and maintain a secure 4 5 online license and registration portal for verifying, 6 recording, and processing the seizure or confiscation 7 of license plates; providing requirements for the 8 portal; authorizing the department to adopt rules; 9 amending s. 320.084, F.S.; providing that a disabled 10 veteran may retain a certain license plate designation 11 upon reissuance, renewal, or transfer of the plate; 12 amending s. 320.0843, F.S.; authorizing applications for disabled parking permits to be made to the tax 13 14 collector; providing that certain license plates may 15 be stamped with specified letters at the option of the 16 applicant; authorizing the tax collector to issue the plates immediately on demand under certain conditions; 17 amending s. 320.26, F.S.; prohibiting a person from 18 obscuring or altering a registration license plate in 19 a specified manner; amending s. 322.21, F.S.; 20 21 requiring a tax collector to fulfill certain renewal 22 and replacement driver licenses and identification 23 cards; providing methods for receipt of the driver 24 license or identification card; requiring the department to remit a specified service fee to the 25

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26 appropriate tax collector under certain conditions; 27 amending s. 320.0848, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; providing an effective date. 28 29 30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 31 Subsection (7) is added to section 320.06, 32 Section 1. 33 Florida Statutes, to read: 320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and 34 35 validation stickers generally .-36 The department shall establish and maintain a secure 37 online license and registration portal accessible to the department, tax collectors, and authorized law enforcement 38 39 agencies for the purpose of verifying, recording, and processing 40 the seizure or confiscation of license plates under this 41 chapter. The portal must provide immediate status updates when a 42 plate has been seized, destroyed, or returned and must be 43 checked before reissuance of a registration or plate. The 44 department may adopt rules to implement this subsection. 45 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 320.084, Florida 46 Statutes, is amended to read: 320.084 Free motor vehicle license plate to certain 47 48 disabled veterans.-The department shall, as it deems necessary, require 49 50 each person to whom a motor vehicle license plate has been

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issued pursuant to subsection (1) to apply to the department for reissuance of his or her registration license plate. Upon receipt of the application and proof of the applicant's continued eligibility, the department shall issue a new permanent disabled veteran motor vehicle license plate which shall be of the colors red, white, and blue similar to the colors of the United States flag. A disabled veteran who has been issued a permanent disabled veteran motor vehicle license plate may retain the unique alphanumeric designation assigned to the plate upon reissuance, renewal, or transfer of the plate to another vehicle owned by the veteran. The operation of a motor vehicle displaying a disabled veteran license plate from a previous issue period or a noncurrent validation sticker after the date specified by the department shall subject the owner if he or she is present, otherwise the operator, to the penalty provided in s. 318.18(2). Such permanent license plate shall be removed upon sale of the vehicle, but may be transferred to another vehicle owned by such veteran in the manner prescribed by law. Upon request of any such veteran, the department is authorized to issue a designation plate containing only the letters "DV," to be displayed on the front of the vehicle.

## Section 3. Section 320.0843, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0843 License plates for persons with disabilities eligible for permanent disabled parking permits.—

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- Any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who resides in this state and qualifies for a disabled parking permit under s. 320.0848(2), upon application to the department, or the tax collector as an authorized agent of the department, and payment of the license tax for a motor vehicle registered under s. 320.08(2), (3)(a), (b), (c), or (e), (4)(a) or (b), (6)(a), or (9)(c) or (d), shall be issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in lieu of or in addition to the serial number prescribed by s. 320.06, shall, at the option of the applicant, be stamped with the international wheelchair user symbol or the letters "DV" indicating a disabled veteran after the serial number of the license plate. The license plate entitles the person to all privileges afforded by a parking permit issued under s. 320.0848. When more than one registrant is listed on the registration issued under this section, the eligible applicant shall be noted on the registration certificate.
- (2) All applications for such license plates <u>may</u> <u>must</u> be made to the department <u>or the tax collector</u>, and such plates may <u>be issued immediately on demand by the tax collector</u>, subject to rules of the department.

## Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 320.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.26 Counterfeiting license plates, validation stickers, mobile home stickers, cab cards, trip permits, or special temporary operational permits prohibited; obscuring or altering

101 license plates prohibited; penalty.-

- (1) (a) A no person may not:
- $\underline{1.}$  shall Counterfeit registration license plates, validation stickers, or mobile home stickers, or have in his or her possession any such plates or stickers.
- $\underline{2.}$ ; nor shall any person Manufacture, sell, or dispose of registration license plates, validation stickers, or mobile home stickers in  $\underline{\text{this}}$  the state without first having obtained the permission and authority of the department in writing.
- 3. Manufacture, sell, offer for sale, or affix to any registration license plate any cover, film, or overlay, whether transparent, translucent, tinted, or opaque, which obscures or alters the legibility, color, or design of the registration license plate.
- Section 5. Subsection (10) is added to section 322.21, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 322.21 License fees; procedure for handling and collecting fees.—
- (10) (a) Any renewal or replacement driver license or identification card ordered through the department's online license and registration portal shall be fulfilled by the tax collector of the county in which the applicant resides. The department shall ensure that all online orders are transmitted to the appropriate tax collector for fulfillment. The tax collector may mail the driver license or identification card to

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the applicant or, at the option of the applicant, may allow the
applicant to pick up the driver license or identification card
at the tax collector's office.

- (b) For purposes of s. 322.135(1)(c), fulfillment under paragraph (a) constitutes services provided by the tax collector. The department shall remit the service fee authorized by s. 322.135(1)(c) to the appropriate tax collector for each transaction fulfilled under paragraph (a).
- Section 6. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 320.0848, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 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.—
- (2) DISABLED PARKING PERMIT; PERSONS WITH LONG-TERM MOBILITY PROBLEMS.—
- (e) A person who qualifies for a disabled parking permit under this section may be issued an international wheelchair user symbol or "DV" license plate under s. 320.0843 in lieu of the disabled parking permit; or, if the person qualifies for a disabled veteran 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 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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