

HOUSE BILL NO. 470

INTRODUCED BY W. CURDY

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING PARKING LAWS; SUBSTITUTING "DISABILITY PARKING PERMIT" FOR "SPECIAL PARKING PERMIT"; SUBSTITUTING "ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACE" FOR "SPECIAL PARKING SPACE"; SETTING MINIMUM NUMBERS OF ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES; DEFINING TERMS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 7-5-2109, 7-5-4104, 49-4-301, 49-4-302, 49-4-303, 49-4-304, 49-4-305, 49-4-306, 49-4-307, 49-4-310, AND 61-3-332, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

(1) "Access aisle" means a designated area adjacent to a designated parking space provided for in 49-4-302 that is marked by spaced, crosshatched, or diagonal stripes or a distinctive change in color or material.

(2) "Accessible parking space" means a parking space that is at least 8 feet wide and designated by an upright sign indicating that it and its adjacent access aisle are reserved for persons with a disability, as provided for in 49-4-302.

Section 2. Section 7-5-2109, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-5-2109. County control of litter. (1) (a) Except as provided in 7-5-2112, a governing body of a county may regulate, control, and prohibit littering on any county road and on land within the county by the adoption of an ordinance that substantially complies with the provisions of 7-5-103 through 7-5-107. The ordinance may apply to portions of the county and may apply to persons other than the owners of the property on which littering occurs.

(b) The ordinance does not apply to lead, copper, or brass deposits directly resulting from shooting activities at a shooting range.

(c) The ordinance does not apply to a "notice of violation" card placed on a motor vehicle illegally parked in a disability accessible parking space.

(2) Except as provided in 7-5-2112, the governing body of a county may establish a fine not to exceed \$200 as a penalty for violation of the ordinance referred to in subsection (1). A violation of the ordinance may not

1 be punishable by imprisonment."

2

3 **Section 3.** Section 7-5-4104, MCA, is amended to read:

4 **"7-5-4104. Control of nuisances -- exception.** (1) The city or town council has power to:

5 (a) define and abate nuisances and impose fines upon persons guilty of creating, continuing, or suffering
6 a nuisance to exist on the premises that they occupy or control;

7 (b) regulate and prohibit the wearing of hats or bonnets at theaters or public places of amusement; and

8 (c) enforce the penalty for violations of 7-5-4113 and post copies of 7-5-4113 in conspicuous locations
9 in the municipality.

10 (2) The city or town council may not prohibit the placing of a "notice of violation" card on a motor vehicle
11 illegally parked in a disability accessible parking space."

12

13 **Section 4.** Section 49-4-301, MCA, is amended to read:

14 **"49-4-301. Eligibility for ~~special~~ disability parking permit.** (1) The department of justice shall issue
15 a ~~special~~ disability parking permit to a person who has a disability that limits or impairs the person's mobility and
16 for whom a licensed physician, a licensed chiropractor, or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, as
17 provided in 37-8-202, submits a certification to the department, by electronic or other means prescribed by the
18 department, that the person meets one of the following criteria:

19 (a) cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest;

20 (b) is severely limited in ability to walk because of an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition;

21 (c) is so severely disabled that the person cannot walk without the use of or assistance from a brace,
22 cane, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device;

23 (d) uses portable oxygen;

24 (e) is restricted by lung disease to the extent that forced expiratory respiratory volume, when measured
25 by spirometry, is less than 1 liter per second or the arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 mm/hg on room air at
26 rest;

27 (f) has impairment because of cardiovascular disease or a cardiac condition to the extent that the
28 person's functional limitations are classified as class III or IV under standards accepted by the American heart
29 association; or

30 (g) has a disability resulting from an acute sensitivity to automobile emissions or from another disease

1 or physical condition that limits or impairs the person's mobility and that is documented by the licensed physician,
 2 the licensed chiropractor, or the licensed advanced practice registered nurse as being comparable in severity to
 3 the other conditions listed in this subsection (1).

4 (2) (a) A person who has a condition expected to improve within 6 months may be issued a temporary
 5 placard for a period not to exceed 6 months but may not be issued a ~~special~~ disability license plate under
 6 61-3-332(9). If the condition exists after 6 months, a new temporary placard must be issued for the time period
 7 prescribed by the applicant's physician, chiropractor, or advanced practice registered nurse, not to exceed 24
 8 months, upon receipt of a later paper or electronic certification from the disabled person's physician, chiropractor,
 9 or advanced practice registered nurse that the conditions specified in subsection (1) continue to exist and are
 10 expected to continue for the time specified.

11 (b) A person who meets one of the criteria in subsection (1) for what is considered to be a permanent
 12 condition, as determined by a licensed physician, a licensed chiropractor, or a licensed advanced practice
 13 registered nurse, may, by application to the department, by electronic or other means prescribed by the
 14 department, be issued a ~~special~~ disability license plate under 61-3-332(9) and is not required to reapply for the
 15 ~~special~~ disability license plate when the vehicle is reregistered.

16 (3) The department of justice may issue ~~special~~ disability parking permits to an agency or business that
 17 provides transportation as a service for persons with a disability. The permits must be used only to load and
 18 unload persons with a disability in the ~~special accessible~~ parking ~~place~~ space provided for in 49-4-302. As used
 19 in this subsection, "disability" means a physical impairment that severely limits a person's ability to walk.

20 (4) Except as provided in subsection (3), an applicant may not receive more than one permit."
 21

22 **Section 5.** Section 49-4-302, MCA, is amended to read:

23 **"49-4-302. Privileges of permitholder -- privilege for disabled veteran -- exemptions from time**
 24 **limits -- requirements for ~~special accessible~~ parking spaces.** (1) The disability parking permit issued under
 25 this part, when displayed, entitles a person to park a motor vehicle or motorcycle in ~~a special~~ an accessible
 26 parking space reserved for a person with a disability, whether on public property or on private property available
 27 for public use, when the person for whom the permit was issued is using the ~~special accessible~~ parking space
 28 to enter or exit the vehicle.

29 (2) ~~A (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), a vehicle may not be parked in a parking space or~~
 30 motorcycle may not stop, stand, or park in a designated and marked accessible parking space or access aisle

1 on public property or private property ~~that is clearly identified by an official sign as being reserved for use by a~~
 2 ~~person with a disability~~ available for public use unless:

3 ~~(a)(i)~~ the vehicle is lawfully displaying:

4 (A) a disability parking permit issued under this part;

5 (B) a distinguishing license plate or placard for a person with a disability that was issued by a foreign
 6 jurisdiction conferring parking privileges similar to those conferred in subsection (1); or

7 (C) ~~a specially~~ an inscribed license plate displaying the letters "DV" issued under 61-3-458(4)(b) or (4)(i)
 8 or displaying a wheelchair as provided in 61-3-332(9); and

9 ~~(b)(ii) the reserved~~ accessible parking space is being used by the person for whom the permit, plate, or
 10 placard was issued to enter or exit the vehicle.

11 (b) A vehicle that is carrying a person with a physical disability without displaying one of the
 12 distinguishing items in subsection (2)(a)(i) may park momentarily in a designated accessible parking space in
 13 order to load or unload the person with a physical disability.

14 (c) Parking in an access aisle is never permitted, even by a vehicle lawfully displaying one of the
 15 distinguishing items in subsection (2)(a)(i).

16 (3) The governing body of a city, town, or county may exempt vehicles lawfully displaying a disability
 17 parking permits permit issued under this part and vehicles lawfully displaying ~~specially~~ inscribed license plates
 18 displaying the letters "DV" issued under 61-3-458(4)(b) or (4)(i) or displaying a wheelchair as provided in
 19 61-3-332(9) and parked in public places along public streets from any time limitation imposed ~~upon~~ on parking,
 20 except in areas where:

21 (a) stopping, standing, or parking of all vehicles is prohibited;

22 (b) only special vehicles may be parked; or

23 (c) parking is not allowed during specific periods of the day in order to accommodate heavy traffic.

24 (4) In accordance with subsection (2), the governing body of a city, town, or county or an appropriate
 25 state agency ~~may~~ shall impose all, but not less than all, of the following requirements and those set forth in 28
 26 CFR 36 with respect to any ~~special~~ accessible parking space constructed after September 30, 1985, and reserved
 27 for a person with a disability or a permitholder on ways of this state open to the public, as defined in 61-8-101:

28 (a) (i) An accessible parking space for a vehicle must be 96 inches wide at a minimum, and a
 29 van-accessible parking space must be 132 inches wide at a minimum.

30 (ii) Both types of parking space must be marked to define the width and must have an adjacent access

1 aisle that is a minimum of 60 inches wide.

2 (iii) An access aisle must extend the full length of the parking space it serves and must be marked so as
 3 to discourage parking in it.

4 (iv) A van-accessible parking space must be 96 inches wide at a minimum when the space's access aisle
 5 is 96 inches wide at a minimum.

6 (b) The minimum number of accessible parking spaces required for parking facilities is as follows:

| <u>Total Number of Parking Spaces Provided in Parking Facility</u> | <u>Minimum Number of Required Accessible Parking Spaces</u> | <u>Minimum Number of Van-Accessible Parking Spaces</u> |
|--|---|--|
| 1 - 25 | 1 | 1 |
| 26 - 50 | 2 | 1 |
| 51 - 75 | 3 | 1 |
| 76 - 100 | 4 | 1 |
| 101 - 150 | 5 | 1 |
| 151 - 200 | 6 | 1 |
| 201 - 300 | 7 | 2 |
| 301 - 400 | 8 | 2 |
| 401 - 500 | 9 | 2 |
| 501 - 1,000 | 2% of total in each lot or structure | 1/6 of total number of spaces |
| 1,001 and over | 20, plus 1 for each 100, or fraction thereof, over 100 | 1/6 of total number of spaces |

20 (c) All accessible parking spaces must contain or be connected to an access aisle. Any two accessible
 21 parking spaces may share a common access aisle.

22 (d) The first space and every sixth accessible parking space thereafter must comply with van-accessible
 23 parking and access requirements.

24 (e) Parking facilities that have four or fewer total parking spaces, including accessible parking spaces,
 25 must have a van-accessible parking space, an access aisle, an accessible route, and any other required access
 26 installed, but the van-accessible space is not required to be signed or reserved for exclusive disability use.

27 (f) Parking facilities with five or more parking spaces must be in compliance with all accessible parking,
 28 signage, and access requirements that are applicable.

1 ~~(a)(g)~~ The An accessible parking space must be located on a smooth, level surface as near as
 2 practicable to building entrances or walkways that have curb cuts and appropriately designed ramps and access
 3 lanes to accommodate wheelchairs.

4 ~~(b)(h)(i)~~ If an accessible parking space is parallel to curbside, the parking space must be separated from
 5 an adjacent space, either in the front or the rear, by at least 5 feet of striped no-parking area where the width of
 6 the adjacent sidewalk or available right-of-way exceeds 14 feet, an access aisle that is 5 feet wide at a minimum
 7 must be provided at street level for the full length of the parking space and must connect to a pedestrian access
 8 route.

9 ~~(ii)~~ An access aisle is not required where the width of the adjacent sidewalk or the available right-of-way
 10 is less than or equal to 14 feet. When an access aisle is not provided, the parking space must be located at the
 11 end of the block face.

12 ~~(c)(i)~~ If at an angle to curbside, the an accessible parking space must be at least 8 feet wide and an
 13 access aisle that is 8 feet wide at a minimum must be provided at street level for the full length of the parking
 14 space and must connect to a pedestrian access route. The parking space must be free of obstruction if located
 15 at the end of a line of angle parking spaces, and each other angle parking space designated for a person with
 16 a disability must be at least 13 feet wide.

17 ~~(d)(j)~~ A An accessible parking space reserved for a person with a disability must be designated by a an
 18 upright sign showing the international symbol of accessibility, indicating that a permit is required, and stating the
 19 penalty for a violation. In order to meet the penalty statement requirement, signs existing on October 1, 1993,
 20 must have attached a decal stating the penalty for a violation, and, where applicable, displaying language
 21 designating a van-accessible parking space. The sign must be attached to a wall or post in a way that it is not
 22 obscured by a vehicle parked in the space. Notice of penalty for violation is not required on signage for the
 23 issuance of a citation."

24
 25 **Section 6.** Section 49-4-303, MCA, is amended to read:

26 **"49-4-303. Issuance of interim special disability parking permit.** A licensed physician, a licensed
 27 chiropractor, or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, as provided in 37-8-202, may issue an interim
 28 ~~special~~ disability parking permit, in a form authorized by the department, to a person who has a disability that
 29 limits or impairs the person's mobility and upon whose behalf the physician, chiropractor, or advanced practice
 30 registered nurse has submitted a request for a ~~special~~ disability parking permit under 49-4-301. The interim

1 ~~special~~ disability parking permit is valid only in Montana, may not be renewed or extended, and expires 5 days
2 from the date of issuance."
3

4 **Section 7.** Section 49-4-304, MCA, is amended to read:

5 **"49-4-304. Special Disability license plate or placard to be provided and displayed -- additional**
6 **placards allowed -- rulemaking required.** (1) Except as authorized in 49-4-303, unless the department of justice
7 issued a ~~special~~ disability license plate under 61-3-332(9) or 61-3-458(4)(b) or (4)(i) indicating a ~~special~~ an
8 accessible parking privilege, the department shall provide a placard to be displayed on or in a motor vehicle to
9 indicate a parking privilege granted under this part. The ~~special~~ disability license plate must be affixed to the
10 vehicle according to 61-3-301, or the placard must be prominently displayed in the windshield of a vehicle when
11 the parking privilege is being used by the person with a disability in a vehicle other than the one to which a ~~special~~
12 disability license plate is affixed.

13 (2) Subject to the provisions of 49-4-301 through 49-4-305, a person who is eligible to receive a ~~special~~
14 disability parking permit may apply to the department for one or more placards.

15 (3) The department shall issue up to two placards to eligible individuals and may issue additional
16 placards. The department shall adopt rules to determine the process for an individual to request additional
17 placards.

18 (4) Upon application under 49-4-301, a person with a disability who does not hold a driver's license or
19 does not own a vehicle may receive a placard to be displayed in a vehicle in which the person with a disability
20 is being conveyed when the parking privilege is being used.

21 (5) The placard must bear a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of a person with a disability."
22

23 **Section 8.** Section 49-4-305, MCA, is amended to read:

24 **"49-4-305. Expiration of permit.** (1) Except as provided in 49-4-303 and subsection (2) of this section,
25 a ~~special~~ disability parking permit expires on the occurrence of either of the following:

26 (a) 3 years from the date of issuance, unless the permit was issued to a person who has a condition
27 expected to improve within 6 months. A person may renew a permit if a licensed physician, a licensed
28 chiropractor, or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, as provided in 37-8-202, certifies that the person's
29 mobility disability still exists and that one of the criteria specified in 49-4-301 continues to be met.

30 (b) certification by a licensed physician, a licensed chiropractor, or a licensed advanced practice

1 registered nurse that the person's mobility disability no longer exists or that the criteria specified in 49-4-301 can
2 no longer be met.

3 (2) A permit issued before October 1, 1993, expires on:

4 (a) the death of the permittee; or

5 (b) certification by a licensed physician, a licensed chiropractor, or a licensed advanced practice
6 registered nurse that the person's mobility disability no longer exists or that the criteria specified in 49-4-301 can
7 no longer be met."

8

9 **Section 9.** Section 49-4-306, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"49-4-306. Department of justice to publicize permit.** (1) The department of justice shall publicize the
11 provisions of 49-4-301 through 49-4-305 in a manner designed to inform those eligible for a ~~special~~ disability
12 parking permit.

13 (2) The department of justice shall budget sufficient funds to accomplish the requirements of subsection
14 (1)."

15

16 **Section 10.** Section 49-4-307, MCA, is amended to read:

17 **"49-4-307. Penalty.** (1) (a) A person who parks a motor vehicle or motorcycle in violation of 49-4-302(2)
18 is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of ~~\$100~~ not less than \$100 or more than \$250 for the first
19 offense and not less than \$250 or more than \$500 for the second or subsequent offense, plus applicable towing,
20 impoundment, and related fees as well as court costs. However, a person charged with violating 49-4-302(2) may
21 not be convicted if within ~~24 hours~~ 3 business days the person produces in court or the office of the arresting
22 officer a ~~special~~ disability parking permit that was previously issued to the person and that is valid at the time of
23 arrest.

24 (b) Of the fines collected in district court or city court under this section:

25 (i) 75% must be paid by the 10th day of each month to the town, city, or county in which the violation
26 occurred to assist that political subdivision in paying the expenses it incurs in complying with requirements of the
27 Americans with Disabilities Act; and

28 (ii) 25% must be paid by the 10th day of each month to the enforcement agency responsible for issuing
29 the citation under this part to assist the agency in paying for expenses related to enforcing this part.

30 (2) An individual who provides false information in order to acquire, or who assists an unqualified person

1 in falsely acquiring, a disability license plate or parking placard or an individual who abuses the privileges granted
2 in this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by no less than 10 hours of community service dedicated to
3 improving access for persons with disabilities, by a fine of no more than \$250, or both.

4 (3) Any law enforcement official in this state may enter upon any public parking space, public parking
5 lot, or public parking facility in this state for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this part with respect to
6 accessible parking for a person with a disability.

7 (4) Any law enforcement officer in this state may enter upon any parking space, parking lot, or parking
8 facility of any private entity in this state for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this part with respect to
9 accessible parking for a person with a disability.

10 (5) The governing body of a city, town, or county or an appropriate state agency may establish a
11 volunteer parking enforcement specialist program for parking for persons with physical disabilities. Under this
12 program, the local authority may authorize volunteers to issue citations only to persons who violate 49-4-302(2)
13 or an ordinance regulating parking in parking spaces for persons with disabilities."

14

15 **Section 11.** Section 49-4-310, MCA, is amended to read:

16 **"49-4-310. Special Disability parking permit for long-term care facility.** A long-term care facility, as
17 defined in 37-9-101, may apply for a permit issued for ~~special~~ accessible parking spaces under 49-4-302. If
18 granted, the permit entitles the facility to the privileges granted in 49-4-302."

19

20 **Section 12.** Section 61-3-332, MCA, is amended to read:

21 **"61-3-332. Standard license plates.** (1) In addition to special license plates, disability license plates,
22 collegiate license plates, generic specialty license plates, and fleet license plates authorized under this chapter,
23 a separate series of standard license plates must be issued for motor vehicles, quadricycles, travel trailers,
24 trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers registered in this state or offered for sale by a vehicle dealer licensed in this
25 state. Standard license plates issued to licensed vehicle dealers must be readily distinguishable from license
26 plates issued to vehicles owned by other persons.

27 (2) (a) Except as provided in 61-3-479 and subsections (2)(b), (3)(b), and (3)(c) of this section, all
28 standard license plates for motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers must bear a distinctive marking,
29 as determined by the department, and be furnished by the department. In years when standard license plates
30 are not reissued for a vehicle, the department shall provide a registration decal that must be affixed to the rear

1 license plate of the vehicle.

2 (b) For light vehicles that are permanently registered as provided in 61-3-562 and motor vehicles
3 described in 61-3-303(9) that are permanently registered, the department shall provide a distinctive registration
4 decal indicating that the motor vehicle is permanently registered. The registration decal must be affixed to the rear
5 license plate of the permanently registered motor vehicle.

6 (c) For a travel trailer, motorcycle, quadricycle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that is permanently
7 registered as provided in 61-3-313(2), the department may use the word or an abbreviation for the word
8 "permanent" on the plate in lieu of issuing a registration decal for the plate.

9 (3) (a) (i) New license plates issued under 61-3-303 or this section must be a standard license plate
10 design first issued in 1989 or later or current collegiate or generic specialty license plate designs. For the
11 purposes of this subsection (3), all military, veteran, and amateur radio license plates and any license plate with
12 a wheelchair design, excluding collegiate or generic specialty plates with a wheelchair design, are treated as
13 standard license plates.

14 (ii) License plates issued on or after January 1, 2010, must be replaced with new license plates if, upon
15 renewal of registration under 61-3-312, the license plates are 5 or more years old or will become older than 5
16 years during the registration period. New license plates must be issued in accordance with the implementation
17 schedule adopted by the department under 61-3-315.

18 (iii) A vehicle owner may elect to keep the same license plate number from license plates issued before
19 January 1, 2010, when replacement of those plates is required under this subsection.

20 (b) A motor vehicle that is registered for a 13-month to a 24-month period, as provided in 61-3-311, may
21 display the license plate and plate design in effect at the time of registration for the entire registration period.

22 (c) A light vehicle described in subsection (2)(b) or a motor home that is permanently registered may
23 display the license plate and plate design in effect at the time of registration for the entire period that the light
24 vehicle or motor home is permanently registered.

25 (d) The provisions of this subsection (3) do not apply to a travel trailer, motorcycle, quadricycle, trailer,
26 semitrailer, or pole trailer.

27 (e) The requirements of this subsection (3) apply to collegiate license plates authorized under 61-3-461
28 through 61-3-468, generic specialty license plates authorized under 61-3-472 through 61-3-481, commemorative
29 centennial license plates authorized under 61-3-448, and special military or veteran license plates authorized
30 under 61-3-458.

1 (4) (a) All license plates must be metal and treated with a reflectorized background material according
2 to specifications prescribed by the department. The word "Montana" must be placed on each license plate and,
3 except for license plates that are 4 inches wide and 7 inches in length, the outline of the state of Montana must
4 be used as a distinctive border on each standard license plate.

5 (b) Plates for semitrailers, travel trailers, pole trailers, trailers with a declared weight of 6,000 pounds or
6 more, and motor vehicles, other than motorcycles and quadricycles, must be 6 inches wide and 12 inches in
7 length.

8 (c) Plates for motorcycles and quadricycles must be 4 inches wide and 7 inches in length.

9 (d) The department shall issue plates that are 4 inches wide and 7 inches in length for trailers with a
10 declared weight of less than 6,000 pounds unless a person registering a trailer with a declared weight of less than
11 6,000 pounds requests plates that are 6 inches wide and 12 inches in length. A person registering a trailer shall
12 pay all applicable fees for the plates chosen.

13 (5) The distinctive registration numbers for standard license plates must begin with a number one or with
14 a letter-number combination, such as "A 1" or "AA 1", or any other similar combination of letters and numbers.
15 Except for special license plates, disability license plates, collegiate license plates, generic specialty license
16 plates, fleet license plates, and standard license plates that are 4 inches wide and 7 inches in length, the
17 distinctive registration number or letter-number combination assigned to the motor vehicle must appear on the
18 plate preceded by the number of the county and appearing in horizontal order on the same horizontal baseline.
19 The county number must be separated from the distinctive registration number by a separation mark unless a
20 letter-number combination is used. The dimensions of the numerals and letters must be determined by the
21 department, and all county and registration numbers must be of equal height.

22 (6) For the use of exempt motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers and motor vehicles,
23 trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers that are exempt from the registration fee as provided in 61-3-321, in addition
24 to the markings provided in this section, standard license plates must bear the following distinctive markings:

25 (a) For motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers owned by the state, the department may
26 designate the prefix number for the various state departments. All numbered plates issued to state departments
27 must bear the words "State Owned", and a year number may not be indicated on the plates because these
28 numbered plates are of a permanent nature and will be replaced by the department only when the physical
29 condition of numbered plates requires it.

30 (b) For motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers that are owned by the counties,

1 municipalities, and special districts, as defined in 18-8-202, organized under the laws of Montana and not
2 operating for profit, and that are used and operated by officials and employees in the line of duty and for motor
3 vehicles on loan from the United States government or the state of Montana to, or owned by, the civil air patrol
4 and used and operated by officials and employees in the line of duty, there must be placed on the standard
5 license plates assigned, in a position that the department may designate, the letter "X" or the word "EXEMPT".
6 Distinctive registration numbers for plates assigned to motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers of each
7 of the counties in the state and those of the municipalities and special districts that obtain plates within each
8 county must begin with number one and be numbered consecutively. Because these standard license plates are
9 of a permanent nature, they are subject to replacement by the department only when the physical condition of
10 the license plates requires it and a year number may not be displayed on the plates.

11 (7) For the purpose of this chapter, the several counties of the state are assigned numbers as follows:
12 Silver Bow, 1; Cascade, 2; Yellowstone, 3; Missoula, 4; Lewis and Clark, 5; Gallatin, 6; Flathead, 7; Fergus, 8;
13 Powder River, 9; Carbon, 10; Phillips, 11; Hill, 12; Ravalli, 13; Custer, 14; Lake, 15; Dawson, 16; Roosevelt, 17;
14 Beaverhead, 18; Chouteau, 19; Valley, 20; Toole, 21; Big Horn, 22; Musselshell, 23; Blaine, 24; Madison, 25;
15 Pondera, 26; Richland, 27; Powell, 28; Rosebud, 29; Deer Lodge, 30; Teton, 31; Stillwater, 32; Treasure, 33;
16 Sheridan, 34; Sanders, 35; Judith Basin, 36; Daniels, 37; Glacier, 38; Fallon, 39; Sweet Grass, 40; McCone, 41;
17 Carter, 42; Broadwater, 43; Wheatland, 44; Prairie, 45; Granite, 46; Meagher, 47; Liberty, 48; Park, 49; Garfield,
18 50; Jefferson, 51; Wibaux, 52; Golden Valley, 53; Mineral, 54; Petroleum, 55; Lincoln, 56. Any new counties must
19 be assigned numbers by the department as they are formed, beginning with the number 57.

20 (8) Each type of special license plate approved by the legislature, except collegiate license plates
21 authorized in 61-3-463 and generic specialty license plates authorized in 61-3-472 through 61-3-481, must be
22 a separate series of plates, numbered as provided in subsection (5), except that the county number must be
23 replaced by a design that distinguishes each separate plate series. Unless otherwise specifically stated in this
24 section, the special plates are subject to the same rules and laws as govern the issuance of standard license
25 plates, must be placed or mounted on a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer owned by the person who
26 is eligible to receive them, with the registration decal affixed to the rear license plate of the motor vehicle, trailer,
27 semitrailer, or pole trailer, and must be removed upon sale or other disposition of the motor vehicle, trailer,
28 semitrailer, or pole trailer.

29 (9) (a) A Montana resident who is eligible to receive a ~~special~~ disability parking permit under 49-4-301
30 may and a person with a low-speed restricted driver's license operating a low-speed electric vehicle or golf cart

1 as provided in 61-5-122 must, upon written application on a form prescribed by the department, be issued a
2 ~~special~~ disability license plate with a design or decal bearing a representation of a wheelchair as the symbol of
3 a person with a disability.

4 (b) If the motor vehicle to which the license plate is attached is permanently registered, the owner of the
5 motor vehicle shall provide, upon request of a person authorized to enforce ~~special~~ parking laws or ordinances
6 in this or any state, evidence of continued eligibility to use the license plate in the form of a valid ~~special~~ disability
7 parking permit issued to or renewed by the vehicle owner under 49-4-304 and 49-4-305.

8 (c) A person with a permanent condition, as provided in 49-4-301(2)(b), who has been issued a ~~special~~
9 disability license plate upon written application, as provided in this subsection (9), is not required to reapply upon
10 reregistration of the motor vehicle.

11 (10) The provisions of this section do not apply to a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer that
12 is registered as part of a fleet, as defined in 61-3-712, and that is subject to the provisions of 61-3-711 through
13 61-3-733."

14
15 NEW SECTION. **Section 13. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
16 integral part of Title 49, chapter 4, and the provisions of Title 49, chapter 4, apply to [section 1].

17 - END -