

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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(Handicapped--parking)

NJSA: 39:4-204

LAWS OF: 1997 CHAPTER: 267

BILL NO: A678

SPONSOR(S): Bagger

DATE INTRODUCED: Pre-filed

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Commerce  
SENATE: Senior Citizens

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: February 27, 1997  
SENATE: December 1, 1997

DATE OF APPROVAL: December 22, 1997

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes  
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: Yes

HEARINGS: No

P.L. 1997, CHAPTER 267, *approved December 22, 1997*  
Assembly No. 678

1 AN ACT concerning handicapped driver certification and amending  
2 P.L.1949, c.280.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-204) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 1. The term "handicapped person" as employed herein shall include  
10 any person who has lost the use of one or more limbs as a  
11 consequence of paralysis, amputation, or other permanent disability or  
12 who is permanently disabled as to be unable to ambulate without the  
13 aid of an assisting device or whose mobility is otherwise limited as  
14 certified by a physician with a plenary license to practice medicine and  
15 surgery or a podiatrist licensed to practice in this State or a bordering  
16 state or a physician stationed at a military or naval installation located  
17 in this State who is licensed to practice in any state.

18 (cf: P.1991, c.49, s.1)

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20 2. Section 3 of P.L.1949, c.280 (C.39:4-206) is amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 3. The director shall issue to such applicant, also, a placard of such  
23 size and design as shall be determined by the director in consultation  
24 with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services in the  
25 Department of Labor, indicating that a handicapped person  
26 identification card has been issued to the person designated therein,  
27 which shall be displayed in such manner as the director shall determine  
28 on the motor vehicle used to transport the handicapped person, when  
29 the vehicle is parked overtime or in special parking places established  
30 for use by handicapped persons.

31 Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, the chief  
32 of police of each municipality in this State shall issue to any person  
33 who has temporarily lost the use of one or more limbs or is  
34 temporarily disabled as to be unable to ambulate without the aid of an

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 assisting device or whose mobility is otherwise temporarily limited, as  
2 certified by a physician with a plenary license to practice medicine and  
3 surgery or a podiatrist licensed to practice in this State or a bordering  
4 state, or a physician stationed at a military or naval installation located  
5 in this State who is licensed to practice in any state, a temporary  
6 placard of not more than six months' duration. Each temporary  
7 handicapped placard issued under the provisions of this section shall  
8 set forth the date on which it shall become invalid.

9 The temporary placard shall be granted upon written certification  
10 by a physician with a plenary license to practice medicine and surgery  
11 or a podiatrist licensed to practice in this State or a bordering state or  
12 a physician stationed at a military or naval installation located in this  
13 State who is licensed to practice in any state that the person meets the  
14 conditions constituting temporary disability as provided in this section.  
15 This certification shall be provided on a standard form to be developed  
16 by the director in consultation with local chiefs of police and  
17 representatives of the handicapped. The form shall contain only those  
18 conditions constituting temporary disability as are provided in this  
19 section. The physical presence of the handicapped person shall not be  
20 required for the issuance of a temporary handicapped placard.

21 The placard may be renewed one time at the discretion of the  
22 issuing authority for a period of not more than six months' duration.  
23 The placard shall be displayed on the motor vehicle used by the  
24 temporarily handicapped person and shall give the person the right to  
25 park overtime or to use special parking places established for use by  
26 handicapped persons in any municipality of this State.

27 The fee for the issuance of such temporary or permanent placard  
28 issued pursuant to this section shall be \$4.00 and payable to the  
29 Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles.

30 The director may, in addition, issue license plates bearing the  
31 national wheelchair symbol for:

32 a. Not more than two motor vehicles owned, operated or leased by  
33 a handicapped person or by any person furnishing transportation on his  
34 behalf; or

35 b. Any two motorcycles owned, operated or leased by a  
36 handicapped person.

37 The fee for the issuance of such plates shall be \$10.00 for each  
38 vehicle.

39 (cf: P.L.1993, c.277, s.1)

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41 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month after  
42 enactment.

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- 3 Permits all licensed physicians at military or naval installations to
- 4 certify persons with disabilities for handicapped parking privileges.

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STATEMENT

A person who is physically handicapped and desires either temporary or permanent handicapped parking privileges in New Jersey must now be certified as handicapped by a physician or podiatrist who is licensed to practice either in this state or in a bordering state. This territorial limitation currently precludes the use of military physicians for such certifications who are assigned to New Jersey military bases and are permitted by the United States Army Medical Command to be licensed in any state.

This bill would permit such physicians to certify that applicants for handicapped license plates, placards for permanent disability, and placards for temporary disabilities up to six months in duration are qualified for such parking privileges.



Permits all licensed physicians at military or naval installations to certify persons with disabilities for handicapped parking privileges.

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND MILITARY AND VETERANS'  
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 678**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 16, 1996

The Assembly Commerce and Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Assembly, No. 678.

A person who is physically handicapped and desires either temporary or permanent handicapped parking privileges in New Jersey must now be certified as handicapped by a physician or podiatrist who is licensed to practice either in this state or in a bordering state. This territorial limitation currently precludes the use of military physicians for such certifications who are assigned to New Jersey military bases and are permitted by the United States Army Medical Command to be licensed in any state.

This bill would permit such physicians to certify that applicants for handicapped license plates, placards for permanent disability, and placards for temporary disabilities up to six months in duration are qualified for such parking privileges.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1996 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

SENATE SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS' AFFAIRS AND  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

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STATEMENT TO  
ASSEMBLY, No. 678

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 8, 1997

The Senate Senior Citizens, Veterans' Affairs and Human Services Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 678.

A person who is physically handicapped and desires either temporary or permanent handicapped parking privileges in New Jersey must now be certified as handicapped by a physician or podiatrist who is licensed to practice either in this State or in a bordering state. This territorial limitation currently precludes the use of military physicians for such certifications who are assigned to New Jersey military bases and are permitted by the United States Army Medical Command to be licensed in any state.

This bill would permit such physicians to certify that applicants for handicapped license plates, placards for permanent disability, and placards for temporary disabilities up to six months in duration are qualified for such parking privileges.

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## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

**BOX-004**

**CONTACT: PETE MCDONOUGH  
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**TRENTON, NJ 08625**

**RELEASE: MONDAY  
DEC. 22, 1997**

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following pieces of legislation:

**A-678**, sponsored by Assemblyman Richard H. Bagger (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union), amends state law to allow all licensed physicians at military or naval installations to certify persons with disabilities for handicapped parking privileges. Under previous law, military physicians in New Jersey could provide medical services to their patients, but were unable to certify for disability unless they were licensed in the State of New Jersey. Under federal law, military physicians do not have to be licensed in the state in which they practice.

**A-1140**, sponsored by Assembly Members Carol Murphy (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Francis Blee (R-Atlantic) and Senators Raymond Zane (D-Salem/Cumberland/Gloucester) and Bill Gormley (R-Atlantic), establishes a venison donation demonstration program in the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). The program would authorize the processing and distribution of venison meats donated by recreational hunters to non-profit organizations. The Commissioner of DHSS will promulgate guidelines to implement the program.

**A-1217**, sponsored by Assemblymen Alan M. Augustine (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Joseph Suliga (D-Union) and Sen. Louis F. Kosco (R-Bergen), clarifies an exemption granted under state law from the licensing provisions of the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986. The Act permits states to exempt certain operators of emergency management equipment from the federal licensing requirements. The bill makes clear that the exemption includes the operation of emergency or rescue equipment operated for the purpose of disaster control.

**A-2313**, sponsored by Assembly Members Rudy Garcia (D-Hudson) and Scott Garrett (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris), allows insurers to deny personal injury protection (PIP) benefits to certain persons who are already insured for PIP benefits under another policy.