

DISABLED VETERAN PARKING AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Ashlee Matthews

Senate Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies parking requirements for accessible parking spaces for certain individuals.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ allows individuals with a disabled veteran license plate or Purple Heart license plate to park in an accessible parking space without displaying an additional placard.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

41-1a-414, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 41

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **41-1a-414** is amended to read:

41-1a-414. Parking privileges for persons with disabilities.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Accessible parking space" means a parking space that is clearly identified as



28 reserved for use by a person with a disability and includes:

29 (i) vertical signage, including the international symbol of accessibility, that is visible
30 from a passing vehicle; and

31 (ii) a clearly marked access aisle, if provided, that is adjacent to and considered part of
32 the parking space.

33 (b) "Honor special group license plate" means a disabled veteran license plate or a
34 Purple Heart license plate.

35 [(b)] (c) "Temporary wheelchair user placard" means the same as that term is defined
36 in Section 41-1a-420.

37 [(c)] (d) "Van accessible parking space" means an accessible parking space that is
38 marked for use by a qualifying person with a walking disability who has a temporary
39 wheelchair user placard or a wheelchair user placard and includes:

40 (i) vertical signage with the international symbol of accessibility and the words "van
41 accessible" that is visible from a passing vehicle; and

42 (ii) a clearly marked access aisle that is adjacent to and considered part of the parking
43 space.

44 [(d)] (e) "Walking disability" means a physical disability that requires the use of a
45 walking-assistive device or wheelchair or similar low-powered motorized or mechanically
46 propelled vehicle that is specifically designed to assist a person who has a limited or impaired
47 ability to walk.

48 [(e)] (f) "Wheelchair user placard" means the same as that term is defined in Section
49 41-1a-420.

50 (2) Except in parking areas designated for emergency use, a person with a disability,
51 qualifying under rules made in accordance with Section 41-1a-420, may park an appropriately
52 marked vehicle for reasonable periods without charge in metered parking zones and restricted
53 parking areas, in a manner that allows proper access to the vehicle by the person with a
54 disability.

55 (3) (a) [~~Only those vehicles carrying a person with a disability special group license~~
56 ~~plate, temporary removable windshield placard, or removable windshield placard and~~
57 ~~transporting a qualifying person with a disability may park in an accessible parking space.] To
58 park in an accessible parking space, the vehicle shall:~~

- 59 (i) display:
- 60 (A) a disability special group license plate;
- 61 (B) an honor special group license plate;
- 62 (C) a temporary removable windshield placard; or
- 63 (D) a removable windshield placard; and
- 64 (ii) be transporting a qualifying person with a disability.
- 65 (b) A violation of Subsection (3)(a) is a class C misdemeanor.
- 66 (c) A person described in Subsection (3)(a) is encouraged to avoid parking in a van
- 67 accessible parking space unless:
- 68 (i) the person has a walking disability and has a temporary wheelchair user placard;
- 69 (ii) the person has a wheelchair user placard; or
- 70 (iii) all other accessible parking spaces that are not van accessible parking spaces are
- 71 occupied.
- 72 (4) This section applies to and may be enforced on public property and on private
- 73 property that is used or intended for use by the public.
- 74 (5) The parking privileges granted by this section also apply to vehicles displaying a
- 75 person with a disability special group license plate, temporary removable windshield placard,
- 76 or removable windshield placard issued by another jurisdiction if displayed on a vehicle being
- 77 used by a person with a disability.
- 78 Section 2. **Effective date.**
- 79 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.