
DIGEST

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HB 457 Original

2018 Regular Session

Hoffmann

Abstract: Establishes a needs accommodation designation for a person's motor vehicle license plate.

Proposed law authorizes an applicant for a driver's license who needs accommodation to request a designation and requires the designation be placed on the license plate of a vehicle he operates indicating that a driver of the motor vehicle may need accommodation.

Proposed law requires the applicant provide a sworn statement from a qualified medical professional licensed in the state or any U.S. state or territory verifying the reason the applicant needs accommodation and prohibits any additional fee for such designation.

Proposed law requires that a law enforcement officer use electronic means immediately available to verify that the driver of a motor vehicle with a license plate designation may need accommodation prior to approaching the motor vehicle.

Proposed law requires that the electronic means available to the law enforcement officer allow him to utilize the vehicle's license plate number to access and verify the driver's license information of any registered driver of the motor vehicle, including his name, date of birth, driver's license number, and whether any driver needs accommodation.

Proposed law requires a driver who needs accommodation to provide a statement from a qualified medical professional licensed in La. or any other U.S. state or territory verifying the medical reason, including any mental, physical, or developmental disability, that he needs accommodation upon the renewal of the registration of the motor vehicle.

Proposed law specifies that any person who wilfully and falsely represents himself as having the qualifications to obtain such special designation authorized by proposed law be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$250, or be imprisoned for not more than 30 days, or both and specifies that a subsequent offense result in a fine of not less than \$250 nor more than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, to establish and implement a law enforcement training course relative to law enforcement officers' interaction with persons who need accommodation, in addition to the requirements of present law.

Proposed law requires the course instruct law enforcement officers on sensitivity and awareness to

ensure equitable treatment and how to effectively communicate and interact with persons who need accommodation, including but not limited to persons with any mental, physical, or developmental disability.

Proposed law requires the course include identification of indicators that an individual may need accommodation; identification of procedures that an officer should employ when encountering a person who needs accommodation; demonstrations of communication and interactive techniques required to effectively interact with a person who needs accommodation; explanations that provide law enforcement officers with an understanding of various mental, physical, and developmental disabilities and examples of unexpected actions potentially taken by persons diagnosed with such disabilities; explanations of the resources available to assist an officer encountering a person who needs accommodation; and descriptions of the procedures an officer should use to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act when encountering a person who needs accommodation.

Proposed law authorizes the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of proposed law. Provides rule oversight authority to the House and Senate committees on transportation, highways and public works.

(Adds R.S. 32:412(P))