

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## ESB 5873

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### As Passed House - Amended:

April 10, 1995

**Title:** An act relating to raising the fine for parking in places reserved for physically disabled persons.

**Brief Description:** Raising the fine for parking in places reserved for physically handicapped persons.

**Sponsors:** Senators Fairley, Owen, Fraser, Smith, Prentice, Kohl and Oke.

### Brief History:

#### Committee Activity:

Law & Justice: 3/21/95 [DPA].

#### Floor Activity:

Amended.

Passed House: 4/10/95, 97-0.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LAW & JUSTICE

**Majority Report:** Do pass as amended. Signed by 16 members: Representatives Padden, Chairman; Hickel, Vice Chairman; Appelwick, Ranking Minority Member; Costa, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Campbell; Carrell; Chappell; Cody; Lambert; McMahan; Morris; Robertson; Sheahan; Smith; Thibaudeau and Veloria.

**Staff:** Edie Adams (786-7180).

**Background:** The director of the Department of Licensing must grant special parking privileges to any person who has a disability that limits or impairs the person's ability to walk. A person who qualifies for special parking privileges is entitled to receive a removable windshield placard and a special license plate.

Parking in a disabled space without a special placard or special license plate is a traffic infraction subject to a monetary penalty of \$50. In addition, a disabled parking violation may be subject to two additional penalties: (1) a public safety and education assessment (PSEA) equal to 60 percent of the \$50 fine (\$30); and (2) an additional PSEA equal to 50 percent of the original PSEA in (1) above (\$15).

**Summary of Bill:** The penalty for parking a vehicle in a space reserved for physically disabled persons without a special license plate or placard is increased from \$50 to \$100. Disabled parking violations occurring on the state capitol grounds are also subject to a \$100 penalty.

Illegally parking a vehicle in a parking space reserved for physically disabled persons is designated a parking infraction. References to statutory provisions which require the splitting of fines with the state treasurer are deleted.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date of Bill:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** Persons who illegally park in a space reserved for disabled persons seriously hamper and limit a disabled person's access to services. Raising the fine for illegally parking in a disabled parking space is needed to discourage people from parking in these spaces and sends a message that this violation is serious.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** Senator Fairley, prime sponsor (pro); and Chris Carnell, Governor's Committee on Disability Issues (pro).