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By: **Senators DeGrange, Green, Haines, Jacobs, Jimeno, and Mooney**  
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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Senate action: Adopted  
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CHAPTER 268

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Parking for Individuals with Disabilities**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Parking for Individuals with  
4 Disabilities; providing for the appointment of the chairman of the Task Force;  
5 providing for the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing for the  
6 staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from  
7 receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member of the Task Force to  
8 receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to report  
9 to the General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of this  
10 Act; and generally relating to the establishment of a Task Force on Parking for  
11 Individuals with Disabilities.

12 **Preamble**

13 WHEREAS, Governmental bodies, agencies, and commissions and citizens  
14 throughout the State have expressed concerns about the process for obtaining parking  
15 placards or special registration plates for individuals with disabilities and the  
16 potential for abuse within that process; and

17 WHEREAS, The increasing number of applications for parking placards and  
18 special registration plates for individuals with disabilities has made it increasingly  
19 difficult for the Motor Vehicle Administration to effectively and efficiently process  
20 those applications; and

21 WHEREAS, Misinformation and a lack of empathy may contribute to abuse of  
22 the privileges conferred by parking placards and special registration plates for  
23 individuals with disabilities and to misuse of parking spaces designated for the use of  
24 individuals; now, therefore,

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
2 MARYLAND, That:

3 (a) There is a Task Force on Parking for Individuals with Disabilities.

4 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

5 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
6 of the Senate;

7 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
8 the House;

9 (3) ~~the Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer of the~~  
10 ~~Department of Transportation, or the Compliance Officer's designee;~~

11 (4) ~~the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator of the Maryland~~  
12 ~~Department of Aging, or the Coordinator's designee;~~

13 (5) ~~the Compliance, Enforcement, and Training Manager of the~~  
14 ~~Maryland Codes Administration, or the Manager's designee;~~

15 (6) ~~the Commander of Automotive Safety of the Department of State~~  
16 ~~Police, or the Commander's designee~~ Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's  
17 designee;

18 (4) the Secretary of Aging, or the Secretary's designee;

19 (5) the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, or the  
20 Secretary's designee;

21 (6) a representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association;

22 (7) the Director of the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities,  
23 or the Director's designee;

24 (8) the Motor Vehicle Administrator, or the Administrator's designee;

25 (9) ~~a representative of each county of the State; and~~

26 (10) (9) a representative of the Maryland Retailers' Association;

27 (10) a representative of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland;

28 (11) a representative of the Maryland Association of Counties; and

29 (12) the following 10 individuals, who shall be appointed by the Governor:

30 (i) a resident of Garrett County, Allegany County, Washington  
31 County, or Frederick County, who shall be the representative for Western Maryland;

1                   (ii)     a resident of any county on the Eastern Shore, who shall be the  
2 representative for the Eastern Shore;

3                   (iii)    a resident of Charles County, Calvert County, or St. Mary's  
4 County, who shall be the representative for Southern Maryland;

5                   (iv)     a resident of Anne Arundel County;

6                   (v)      a resident of Baltimore City;

7                   (vi)     a resident of Baltimore County;

8                   (vii)    a resident of Harford County;

9                   (viii)   a resident of Howard County;

10                  (ix)     a resident of Montgomery County; and

11                  (x)     a resident of Prince George's County.

12       (c)     ~~The Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer of the Department~~  
13 ~~of Transportation, or the Compliance Officer's designee, shall be chairman of the Task~~  
14 ~~Force~~ The chairman of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Governor.

15       (d)     The Task Force shall:

16               (1)     study current laws regarding parking privileges for individuals with  
17 disabilities, with a focus on laws governing parking spaces designated for Class M  
18 (multipurpose) vehicles and for the use of individuals with disabilities; and

19               (2)     make specific recommendations, including developing draft  
20 legislation and regulations, on issues relating to parking placards and special  
21 registration plates for individuals with disabilities and parking spaces designated for  
22 use by individuals with disabilities.

23       (e)     The Department of Transportation shall provide staffing for the Task  
24 Force.

25       (f)     A member of the Task Force:

26               (1)     may not receive compensation for serving on the Task Force; but

27               (2)     is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
28 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

29       (g)     The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
30 General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on or  
31 before December 31, 2004.

32       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
33 effect June 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and, at the end

1 of December 31, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
2 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.