



HB 747: Revise Laws Relating to Disability Parking

The main purpose behind HB 747 is to update Montana Code Annotated section 49-4-307, which provides for the penalty for individuals who illegally park in disability accessible parking spaces, as defined in MCA 49-4-302. This update is necessary for a number of reasons.

1. To add a reference to 49-4-302(3) which was inadvertently left out of HB 598, which passed the 2021 Legislature;
2. To decriminalize citations issued for individuals who illegally park in a disability accessible parking space and instead, make the citation a civil citation;
3. To increase the fine for citations issued for individuals who illegally park in a disability accessible parking space or access aisle from \$100 to a range between \$150 and \$500, depending upon the number of citations a person has received for illegally parking in a disability accessible space or access aisle; and
4. To add a misdemeanor penalty for individuals who may provide or assist in providing false information in order for an unqualified person to acquire a disability parking placard or license plate.

HB 747 is a follow-up to HB 598 from the 2021 Legislative Session and serves to modernize Montana's disability accessible parking laws, put in place a fine structure that will hopefully actually deter individuals from illegally parking in disability accessible parking spaces and access files, and to provide clarity in MCA for law enforcement agencies to better be able to understand how to properly enforce Montana's disability accessible parking laws.