

State of Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration Fiscal Impact Statement

# Bill: HB1138 Amendment Number: H1 Bill Subtitle: TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS TO CERTIFY TO THE OFFICE OF MOTOR VEHICLE ELIGIBILITY FOR A SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE, CERTIFICATE, OR PARKING DECAL FOR A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY.

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Sponsors:

**Reps. Torres and Gramlich** 

Sen. Penzo

#### Basic Change:

**House Amendment No. 1** - HB1138-H1 (engrossed 01/30/25) removes language from the original bill that would have inadvertently altered the frequency of recertification of an individual for purposes of obtaining a disabled license plate or permit.

**Original Bill** - HB1138 authorizes additional medical professionals to certify an individual's eligibility for a disabled license plate or permit.

Under current law, an owner of a motor vehicle may apply to the Office of Motor Vehicle for issuance of a special license plate if the applicant, a dependent of the applicant, or an individual who depends on the applicant for more than 60% of his or her transportation is disabled as defined under the Access to Parking for Persons with Disabilities Act. To qualify, the individual must be certified as a person with a qualifying disability by a licensed physician.

HB1138 expands the types of medical professionals who are permitted to certify an individual as a person with a qualifying disability by defining the "certifying authority" as:

- A licensed physician;
- An advanced practice registered nurse;
- A physician assistant; or
- A physical therapist.

#### Fiscal Impact:

None.

#### Taxpayer Impact:

An advanced practice registered nurse, a physician assistant, or a physical therapist will have the same signature authority provided to a physician for purposes of certifying a person's eligibility for a disabled license plate or permit.

### Resources Required:

The Arkansas Integrated Revenue System (AIRS) will need to be modified with a project cost of \$6,000 and no ongoing yearly maintenance required.



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## Time Required:

Adequate time is provided for implementation.

### **Procedural Changes:**

Updates will be required to the Motor Vehicle manual and the DFA website. Training and review sessions will be conducted for employees of State Revenue offices, the Office of Driver Services, and the Office of Motor Vehicle. Notification will also be provided to the taxpayer community.

### Other Comments:

None.

## Legal Analysis:

None.