



# HOUSE BILL 11: Handicap Parking Privilege Certification.

2017-2018 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	House Transportation	<b>Date:</b>	March 7, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Adcock, Dobson, Cunningham	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Giles Perry and Howard Marsilio
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorneys

**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 11 authorizes licensed physician assistants, licensed nurse practitioners, and licensed certified nurse midwives to certify applications to DMV for handicapped parking placards or license plates.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Under current law, G.S. 20-37.6(c1), the application to DMV for a handicapped license plate or placard must be certified by one of the following:

- licensed physician
- licensed ophthalmologist
- a licensed optometrist
- Division of Services for the Blind
- United States Department of Veterans Affairs

G.S. 90-18.3 currently states that "Whenever a statute or State agency rule requires that a physical examination shall be conducted by a **physician**, the examination may be conducted and the form signed by a **nurse practitioner** or a **physician's assistant**, and a physician need not be present." DMV's position is that this statute doesn't apply to current G.S. 20-37.6(c1), because G.S. 90-18.3 applies to "examination", and G.S. 20-37.6 refers to "certification".

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 11 amends the current law on handicapped plates and placards, which requires medical certification, to make clear the certification can be done by **licensed physician assistants** or **licensed nurse practitioners**. The bill also adds **licensed certified nurse midwives** as persons authorized to provide the certification.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act is effective when it becomes law.

**BACKGROUND:** A **physician assistant** is a person licensed to perform medical functions as an assistant to a physician, including those duties authorized in G.S. 90-18.1. A **nurse practitioner** is a registered nurse who has: completed a post-graduate certificate nurse practitioner education program or obtains a Master's, or higher degree, in nursing or related field with primary focus on nursing; a certification by a national credentialing body; and is registered pursuant to Chapter 90. A **licensed certified nurse midwife** is a registered nurse who has: graduated from an approved nurse midwifery education program approved by the American College of Nurse Midwives; and passes the certification exam in accordance with Chapter 90.

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