

ASSEMBLY, No. 1913

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 6, 1996

By Assemblymen LeFEVRE and BLEE

1 AN ACT concerning parking spaces for handicapped motorists and  
2 supplementing chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. a. A person who owns or controls a parking area which is open  
8 to the public or to which the public is invited and which contains  
9 special parking spaces for the use of persons who have been issued a  
10 placard or wheelchair symbol license plates pursuant to P.L.1949,  
11 c.280 (C.39:4-204 et seq.) shall be responsible for assuring that snow  
12 or ice removed from the parking area does not obstruct access to these  
13 special parking spaces.

14 b. A person who violates this act shall be liable for a penalty of not  
15 less than \$200 nor more than \$500, imprisonment for a term not to  
16 exceed 15 days, or both.

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18 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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23 This bill addresses a seasonal dilemma faced by handicapped  
24 motorists who use the parking lots of shopping centers and other  
25 facilities. Under State law, these persons may obtain special license  
26 plates or placards which entitle them to use designated reserved  
27 parking places in these lots. However, during the winter these  
28 reserved parking spaces are made inaccessible at times by snow that  
29 has been plowed from the parking lot. Such obstruction poses a  
30 hardship for handicapped motorists and negates the purpose of the law  
31 granting them special parking privileges.

32 The bill makes the person who owns or controls a parking area  
33 responsible for assuring parking spaces reserved for handicapped  
34 motorists are not blocked by snow. A violation of this provision  
35 would be subject to a penalty of not less than \$200 nor more than  
36 \$500, imprisonment for a term not to exceed 15 days, or both.

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3 Prohibits snow obstruction of parking spaces reserved for handicapped

4 motorists.