

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 266

5 By: Senators U. Lindsey, L. Chesterfield, Files, K. Ingram, B. Sample, E. Williams
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A COMMUNICATION IMPEDIMENT
9 DESIGNATION AND DECAL DUE TO A MEDICAL CONDITION; AND
10 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 TO AUTHORIZE A COMMUNICATION IMPEDIMENT
14 DESIGNATION AND DECAL DUE TO A MEDICAL
15 CONDITION.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 16, Subchapter 8, is
22 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 27-16-815. Communication impediment designation and decal.

24 (a)(1) A person, or the parent or guardian of a person, who meets the
25 requirements of this section may apply to the Office of Driver Services for a
26 communication impediment designation on the driver's license or
27 identification card of the person by providing:

28 (A) Documentation from a physician that the person meets
29 the requirements of this section; and

30 (B) Payment of the fee for the driver's license or
31 identification card authorized under this chapter.

32 (2) If the person seeks a duplicate or substitute driver's
33 license or identification card with the communication impediment designation
34 and his or her driver's license or identification card has not expired, the
35 fee shall be as provided under § 27-16-806.

36 (b)(1) A person who qualifies for the issuance of a communication



1 impediment designation or his or her parent or guardian may purchase a
2 communication impediment decal for his or her license plate for a fee of one
3 dollar (\$1.00).

4 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration shall design a
5 decal to indicate that a person present in a motor vehicle displaying a
6 license plate with a communication impediment decal under subdivision (b)(1)
7 of this section has a medical condition that may impede his or her ability to
8 communicate.

9 (3) The fee of one dollar (\$1.00) authorized by subdivision
10 (b)(1) of this section shall be used by the department to defray the cost of
11 administering this section.

12 (c) The purpose of the communication impediment designation and decal
13 is to facilitate communication during an encounter between a law enforcement
14 officer, an emergency medical service provider, or a firefighter and a person
15 present in a motor vehicle who has a medical condition that may impede his or
16 her ability to communicate, including without limitation the following
17 medical conditions:

18 (1) Alzheimer's disease;

19 (2) Autism spectrum disorders; or

20 (3) Down syndrome.

21 (d) The office may:

22 (1) Determine the appropriate placement of the communication
23 impediment designation on a driver's license or identification card
24 authorized under this section; and

25 (2) Promulgate the necessary rules for the administration of
26 this section.

27 (e) This section does not require a person who has a communication
28 impediment to obtain a driver's license or identification card with a
29 communication impediment designation.

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31 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on and after
32 November 13, 2017.