

Sec. 30-43. - Disabled persons, exemption from payment of parking fees and penalties; free public parking for the physically disabled.

- (1) Any motor vehicle that is qualified to park in a specially marked parking space designated for the disabled pursuant to this article both in the unincorporated areas of the County and within municipalities shall be permitted to park in any public parking space in Miami-Dade County without incurring a fee for parking.
- (2) For purposes of this section, the term "public parking space" shall mean a parking space at a County facility or any parking space provided by any municipality within Miami-Dade County, and each agency, instrumentality and authority thereof.
- (3) **Neither Miami-Dade County nor any municipality or any agency thereof shall exact any fee for parking on the public streets or highways or in any metered parking space from the driver of a vehicle that displays:**
 - (a) **A disabled parking permit or a license plate issued under Section 316.1958 or 320.0848, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time; or**
 - (b) **A license plate issued under Section 320.084, 320.0842, 320.0843, or 320.0845, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time.**
- (4) The privileges and exemptions provided in this section shall apply only if the vehicle is transporting the person who has a disability and to whom the disabled parking permit or license plate was issued, and shall not apply to persons who are not disabled using the vehicle of a disabled person for their own use.
- (5) No penalty shall be imposed upon any such disabled person or driver of a vehicle that is parked as permitted in this section, except if parked in excess of posted time limits or parked in areas that are clearly defined as one of the following: bus loading zones; fire zones or fire lanes; emergency vehicle zones; access aisles adjacent to parking spaces for persons who have disabilities; or in areas posted as "No Parking" zones.
- (6) A parking facility that restricts the number of consecutive days that a vehicle may be parked may impose that same restriction on a vehicle that displays a disabled parking permit issued to a person who has a disability.
- (7) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary:
 - (a) The Seaport Department shall be entitled to charge and collect parking fees for the use of any County facility made available for parking by the Seaport Department in connection with an event at a cruise-port terminal by vehicles that display a disabled parking permit or license plate issued under state law in the same manner and amount as it charges other persons;
 - (b) The Aviation Department shall be entitled to charge and collect parking fees for the use of any County facility made available for parking by the Aviation Department, including County facilities providing temporary, short-term, or up-close parking, by vehicles that display a disabled parking permit or license plate issued under state law in the same manner and amount as it charges other persons; and
 - (c) The County, a municipality, or any agency thereof, including the Public Health Trust, may charge and collect parking fees for parking in a parking facility that provides timed parking spaces by any vehicle that displays a disabled parking permit or license plate issued under state law in the same manner and amount as it charges other persons, except that any such vehicle: (i) with specialized equipment, such as ramps, lifts, or foot or hand controls, or for utilization by a person who has a disability or whose vehicle is displaying the Florida Toll Exemption permit; (ii) displaying a license plate for disabled veterans issued under Section 320.084, 320.0842 or 320.0845, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time; or (iii) exiting a County facility made available for parking by the Aviation Department, the Seaport Department or the Public Health Trust less than two hours from entering the facility shall not be charged parking fees. Any such vehicle exiting the County facility made available for parking by the Aviation Department or the Seaport

Department more than two hours from entering the facility shall be charged for the entire time the vehicle uses the facility, but any vehicle exiting a parking facility made available by the Public Health Trust shall be charged for the time the vehicle uses the facility, except for the first two hours that the vehicle uses the Public Health Trust parking facility.

(Ord. No. 21-75, § 4, 7-20-21)