

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 1242  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** March 10, 2015

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**Subject:** Data practices; disability certificate holders

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### Overview

Current law grants individuals who hold a disability certificate certain privileges when parking a vehicle or when the vehicle is being parked solely for the individual's benefit. These privileges include authorization to park in (1) spaces specifically designated for persons with disabilities; (2) metered spaces without time restriction or the obligation to pay a meter fee; and (3) certain non-metered spaces without time restriction unless posted otherwise.

Under existing data practices law, data related to the holder of a disability certificate is private data maintained by the Department of Public Safety, but (except for medical data) it may be released to law enforcement agencies. Often, this data is used to verify the status of a disability certificate by officers enforcing parking laws.

In some jurisdictions, parking enforcement is conducted by employees or agents of the city or town who are not affiliated with the local law enforcement agency. This bill permits non-medical data on disability certificate holders to be released, for parking enforcement purposes, to employees or agents of cities and towns responsible for conducting that work.