

HOUSE BILL NO. 484

BY REPRESENTATIVE SIMON AND SENATOR GARY SMITH

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:403.3, relative to the deaf and hard of hearing; to provide for a deaf or hard of hearing designation on the registration of a motor vehicle; to authorize the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the deaf or hard of hearing designation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:403.3 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§403.3. Identification stickers for the deaf and hard of hearing; license label

A. The office of motor vehicles of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections is hereby authorized to issue an identification sticker or decal which shall be the international symbol of deafness at no cost for use by deaf and hard of hearing persons who are granted a driver's license. Every deaf or hard of hearing person applying for a driver's license with an identification decal or sticker shall attach to the application a statement indicating a hearing loss attested by one of the following: a medical physician, audiologist, or speech pathologist. The sticker or decal is to be offered at the time the driver's license is issued and shall be prepared so that it may at the option of the user be applied to the windshield and viewed from the outside of the vehicle or on the license plate, or both. The same sticker or decal identifying the licensee as deaf or hard of hearing shall be offered and imprinted on the back of the driver's license under the lamination.

B. In addition to the identification sticker or decal provided for in Subsection A of this Section, the office of motor vehicles of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall create a flag code to be placed on the registration of a motor

1 vehicle which shall indicate that the driver of the vehicle is deaf or hard of hearing.
2 Upon the initial application for or renewal of the registration of a motor vehicle, the
3 flag will be placed on the registration at the driver's request at no additional cost,
4 provided he produces a statement indicating a hearing loss attested by one of the
5 following: a medical physician, audiologist, or speech pathologist. The secretary
6 shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure
7 Act as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Subsection.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____