

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 236

BY SENATOR FOIL

MOTOR VEHICLES. Establishes a driver's license designation and a special identification designation for a person with a seizure disorder. (8/1/24)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:412(Q) and R.S. 40:1321(S)(1), (2), (3), and (5) and to enact
3 R.S. 32:412(R) and R.S. 40:1321(S)(6), relative to a driver's license designation for
4 persons with a seizure disorder; to provide for special identification card designation;
5 to provide for an application process; to provide for medical verification; to provide
6 for a renewal process; to provide for penalties for false application; to provide for
7 rulemaking; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 32:412(Q) and R.S. 40:1321(S)(1), (2), (3), and (5) are hereby
10 amended and reenacted and to enact R.S. 32:412(R) and R.S. 40:1321(S)(6) are hereby
11 enacted to read as follows:

12 §412. Amount of fees; credit or refund; duration of license; veteran designation;
13 disabled veteran designation; university logo; "I'm a Cajun"
14 designation; needs accommodation designation; autism spectrum
15 disorder designation; **seizure disorder designation**; disbursement of
16 funds; renewal by mail or electronic commerce of Class "D" or "E"
17 drivers' licenses; disposition of certain fees; exception.

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2 **Q. (1) Upon request of an applicant for a driver's license, a designation**
3 **that the applicant has a seizure disorder shall be exhibited on the driver's**
4 **license upon presentation of a statement from a qualified medical health**
5 **professional licensed in Louisiana or any other state or territory of the United**
6 **States verifying the applicant's disability as established by administrative rule.**
7 **The qualified medical professional shall be authorized to diagnose a seizure**
8 **disorder. No additional fee shall be charged to include such designation.**

9 **(2) Upon the renewal of a driver's license, a driver who has a seizure**
10 **disorder shall provide a statement from a qualified medical health professional**
11 **licensed in Louisiana or any other state or territory of the United States**
12 **verifying his disability as established by administrative rule.**

13 **(3) Any person who has not been diagnosed with a seizure disorder who**
14 **willfully and falsely represents himself as having the qualifications to obtain the**
15 **special designation authorized by this Section shall be fined not less than one**
16 **hundred dollars nor more than two hundred fifty dollars, or shall be imprisoned**
17 **for not more than thirty days, or both. Any subsequent offense shall result in a**
18 **fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars nor more than five hundred**
19 **dollars, or imprisonment for not more than ninety days, or both.**

20 **(4) The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and**
21 **Corrections, public safety services, shall promulgate rules and regulations as**
22 **necessary to implement the provisions of this Subsection, including a waiver of**
23 **liability for the release of any medical information.**

24 **R.** An applicant for any class of license may choose to donate one dollar in
25 addition to any license fee required by this Section to the Louisiana Military Family
26 Assistance Fund.

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28 §1321. State identification cards; special identification cards; issuance; veteran
29 designation; disabled veteran designation; university logo; "I'm a

1 enforcement officers' interaction with persons who have autism spectrum disorder.
2 The course shall instruct law enforcement officers on sensitivity and awareness to
3 ensure equitable treatment and how to effectively communicate and interact with
4 persons with autism spectrum disorder. At a minimum, the course shall include the
5 following:

6 (a) Identification of indicators that a person has autism spectrum disorder.

7 (b) Identification of procedures that an officer should employ when
8 encountering a person with autism spectrum disorder.

9 (c) Demonstrations of communication and interactive techniques required to
10 effectively interact with a person with autism spectrum disorder.

11 (d) Explanations that provide law enforcement officers with an understanding
12 of the developmental disability and examples of unexpected actions potentially taken
13 by persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

14 (e) Explanations of the resources available to assist an officer encountering
15 a person who has autism spectrum disorder.

16 (f) Descriptions of the procedures an officer should use to ensure compliance
17 with the Americans with Disabilities Act when encountering a person with autism
18 spectrum disorder.

19 (5) In addition to the training requirements contained in R.S.
20 40:2404.2(C), the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety
21 services, shall establish and implement a law enforcement training course
22 relative to law enforcement officers' interaction with persons who have autism
23 spectrum disorder. The course shall instruct law enforcement officers on
24 sensitivity and awareness to ensure equitable treatment and how to effectively
25 interact with a person experiencing a seizure. At a minimum, the course shall
26 include the following:

27 (a) Identification of indicators that a person is experiencing a seizure.

28 (b) Identification of procedures that an officer should employ when
29 encountering a person experiencing a seizure.

Proposed law adds the designation of seizure disorder who must provide a sworn statement from a qualified licensed medical professional verifying the medical condition and prohibits any additional fee for the designation.

Proposed law authorizes the deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of proposed law.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 32:412(Q) and R.S. 40:1321(S)(1), (2), (3), and (5); adds R.S. 32:412(R) and R.S. 40:1321(S)(6))