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The Secretary of State presents his compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission and wishes to inform the Chiefs of Mission of a policy change regarding motor vehicle disability license plates. This note supersedes Department Note No. 20-919, dated June 26, 2020.

Effective immediately, the Department's Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) will no longer issue disability license plates. Instead, disability parking placards will be provided to individuals with temporary or long-term disabilities at the recommendation of a medical provider licensed in the United States. The disability parking placard allows the holder to park in spaces designated for persons with disabilities. Additionally, the placard is transferable between vehicles.

To apply for a disability parking placard, missions must submit a diplomatic note accompanied by a signed statement by licensed physician or practitioner (nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, podiatrist, or

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chiropractor) certifying (1) that a disability parking placard is warranted and (2) the length of time the placard is needed. The medical statement must be dated within six months from the date of the request. OFM will issue placards only up to the date specified by the individual's medical provider in the case of a temporary disability or up to one year in the case of a long-term/permanent disability. Disability parking placards will not renew automatically. If the holder needs to retain the placard beyond its expiration, missions must submit a diplomatic note and new medical statement to OFM to facilitate the renewal process. If the disability parking placard is lost or damaged, please contact the Foreign Missions Support Center (FMSC) or the appropriate OFM regional office via email to request a replacement. A \$25 service fee will be charged for replacement placards.

Mission members in possession of disability license plates must exchange their plates for regular diplomatic or consular plates and a disability parking placard. For all OFM disability plates issued on or before September 1, 2022, a diplomatic note accompanied by a signed statement by licensed physician or practitioner (nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, podiatrist, or chiropractor) certifying (1) that a disability parking

placard is warranted and (2) the length of time the placard is needed, will be required. In order to facilitate this policy change, missions must submit replacement plate applications via eGov no later than November 1, 2024. The required diplomatic note, medical statement, and insurance declarations page should be attached to the eGov application.

For all embassy inquiries regarding the application process, please contact the FMSC at [OFM-FMS@state.gov](mailto:OFM-FMS@state.gov). Consular inquiries should be directed to the OFM regional office that oversees that region. The Chiefs of Mission are requested to communicate this important information to all mission personnel and their family members throughout the United States. Missions may direct any questions regarding this policy to [OFM-Policy@state.gov](mailto:OFM-Policy@state.gov)

Department of State,

Washington, September 12, 2024.

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