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House Human Services Committee Senate Bill 2191– March 1, 2023 Testimony of Micah Olson, P&A Position-In Favor

My name is Micah Olson. I am an attorney at Protection and Advocacy. I am speaking in favor of Senate Bill No. 2191, a bill to include physical therapists as health care professionals who can sign statements for applications for mobility-impaired parking certificates.

This bill will streamline and simplify the process for individuals to receive parking placards. This would be particularly beneficial to individuals who are receiving physical therapy but are unable to immediately see a doctor, which may be due to scheduling issues or the distance to see a doctor for those who live in rural areas.

Being able to receive parking placards quickly will assist those who need them because they will be able to park closer to the entrance of buildings, which will allow people to do activities more easily and safely. Walking long distances can be difficult, and even hazardous, for disabled individuals. This is particularly a concern in the winter because of ice.

I support a Do Pass recommendation.