

Regarding HB 1137:

I'm permanently confined to wheelchair use due to a motor vehicle accident that occurred while working in May of 2007, and as such, 2 parking placards have been issued to me in order to utilize designated parking spots.

This simple change to the law prevents an "annoyance" penalty in my opinion. As an example, if I forgot to hang my placard on the center rear-view mirror, I would be subject to a penalty of \$5 as that the one *only* location the law currently allows. The bill in front of you adds five simple words to create a second legal location for the placard to be placed.

In my opinion, this targets **ONLY** individuals who are otherwise legally parked and is simply an "annoyance" fee because the official had to exit their vehicle (otherwise the penalty would be \$100 for parking illegally).

The simple addition of five words matters. If I, for example, forgot to hang the placard before exiting my vehicle, I'm still able to place the placard on my dashboard; however, it is physically impossible to reach the center mirror without reentering my vehicle. The physical toll of reentering my vehicle again to simply hang the placard is an undue burden considering I am still able to place the placard on my dashboard after exiting my vehicle.

I humbly ask this committee to issue a "Do Pass" suggestion to the other members of the Chamber.

Thank you,

Ian Sweep

Additional information for the Senate Transportation Committee:

Based on some of the questions asked during the House Transportation Committee, I would like to address those concerns:

"Why doesn't the individual use plates?"

There are a few reasons: State Law doesn't require plates, some individuals who qualify for placards may not be able to drive so they wouldn't have a vehicle to register with plates and placards are tied to the individual, and call it ego or vanity but when driving I personally don't want to advertise to everyone else on the road that I'm disabled.

"Why doesn't the person leave the placard hanging all the time?"

It should be noted that the placard reads at the top, "IMPORTANT: REMOVE BEFORE DRIVING VEHICLE." It is considered by law enforcement to be an obstructed view, and law enforcement will stop a person who does this.