



Martha Gabehart, Executive Director

Laura Kelly., Governor

House Transportation Committee
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Testimony in Support of HB 2649
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Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns

Thank you Chairperson Proehl and members of the committee. I am Martha Gabehart, Executive Director of the Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC) providing testimony in support of HB 2649. KCDC supports legislation that provides Kansans with disabilities with opportunities to be more active in their communities and participate with their non-disabled peers.

HB 2649 adds personalized license plates to those on which a decal for accessible parking may be affixed. Currently a person with a personalized license plate must give up that plate and use the accessible parking decal on a distinctive license plate. This appears to be an inadvertent omission. A personalized plate affords the driver no additional benefits that a distinctive plate affords other drivers. A personalized plate is available to any citizen who has a vehicle and is willing to pay for the plate. Penalizing a person with a disability who requires accessible parking by denying them the ability to use a personalized plate for their accessible parking privileges is discriminatory.

We encourage you to correct this error and pass HB 2649 favorably. Thank you.