

STATE OF KANSAS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**KELLIE WARREN**  
28TH DISTRICT

Chairman Proehl, Vice Chair Thimesch, ranking Minority Member Helgeson and the members of the committee.

HB 2649 Providing for the availability and use of the wheelchair emblem decal on a personalized license plate.

I am Representative Kellie Warren, House District 28. Thank you for the opportunity to stand before you to rise in support of HB 2649, which I am also sponsoring.

This bill began when my constituent, Mr. Thomas West, contacted me about the problem he was experiencing with the disability placard hanging from the rear view mirror in his car. The placard began deteriorating. It began deteriorating because Kansas law requires that while driving the placard not be hanging, so, it has to constantly be removed, and re-hung for display during parking.

While parked, hot temperatures during Kansas summers cause temperatures to rise in the car. The hot temperatures soften the materials in the placard. The wear and tear on the placard caused by the needing to constantly remove the placard for driving, and replace it for parking, combined with the hot weather softening the materials in the placard, causes the placard to become nearly unusable.

In addition, the size of the rear view mirror where the placard is hung has increased in cars these days, causing further wear and tear on the placard when used.

Vehicles that display the placard sometimes have a personalized license plate. Sometimes those personalized plates have the maximum seven characters in them. A wheelchair emblem decal would fit. However, current law does not provide for a wheelchair emblem decal for the personalized plate, only a distinctive plate.

HB 2649 addresses these concerns. The bill allows for the placement of a wheelchair emblem decal on a personalized license plate, so that if or when the placard deteriorates the emblem is already always displayed on the vehicle's personalized license plate.

Thank you.

Representative Kellie Warren

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kellie Warren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

House of Representatives District 28  
Leawood, Kansas