

Chairman Proehl, Vice Chair Thimesch, Ranking Minority Member Helgerson, and members of the committee, I am Thomas West of Leawood and I am here to speak in support of HB2649 currently before this committee. I currently have a personalized license plate on my vehicle. I also have a disabled parking placard in my vehicle. I have encountered two problems with the placard. First, most newer vehicles have thick rear view mirror posts and wires in the vicinity such that it is difficult or impossible to attach a placard to that mirror. Second, the law requires removing the placard from the mirror when driving. This repeated process of mounting and removing a placard causes fatigue in the placard, especially in summer heat, and the result is the placard frequently breaks and becomes useless.

I would like to keep my personalized plate with seven characters and have the disabled parking sticker on my plate. Unfortunately, as the Department of Revenue enforces current law, I may have a personalized plate with the disabled symbol printed on the plate and be limited to five characters. I am not allowed to have seven characters and a disabled sticker. For me to have seven characters and the disabled sticker requires a change in the law. Thus, HB2649 which is before this committee for its consideration. I respectfully ask that this committee vote to approve this bill. I thank the committee for its time and its consideration.