

Chairman Green, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and members of the House Transportation Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to offer proponent testimony on House Bill 787.

My name is Christian Prugh. I've been part of Adaptive Sports Ohio for many years, now playing the sport of power soccer. In my years of playing the sport and traveling I've encountered many problems with accessible parking. The main problems being at hotels, General business like the mall or a retail store. There aren't enough spaces or the spaces aren't wide enough to accommodate the ramp or wheelchair lift coming out of the vehicle. I've encountered and have had people share to me that non-handicapped people are take the spots that don't need them or they are parking in the hash marked spots that are used for loading and unloading the vehicle and not getting punished for this action. Myself personally come across the problem and either had to wait for the person to return to their car or had to have my parents or a friend or police Officer move my vehicle for me so I can get in. I've had people tell me " oh I was just in there for a few minutes" or have had people give me dirty looks Because I'm parking too close to them when they are parked in the hash marks.

I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation. Thank you all for your time and I am happy to answer any questions at this time.

