

February 14, 2022

Re: H. B. 31 Accessible Parking:

Chairwoman Kunze, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Transportation Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to offer proponent testimony on House Bill 31.

I am 24 years old, live in rural Wayne County with my parents. I work at Midwest Community in the woodshop and am active with adaptive sports.

I am a power wheelchair user, and have an accessible van for transportation. On many occasions I have encountered vehicles parking in the lines between parking spaces, making it impossible to load and unload my wheelchair from the side entrance ramp of my van.

Another issue is drivers blocking the curb cut, preventing access to the sidewalk. These have caused many delays in parking, and entering public buildings.

Most people hope they get a parking space up front. I wish that was my only concern. I always have to think, 'can I even enter this building, will I have to look for a different entrance?'

If HB 31 is passed, the improvements would be a great help in making our community accessible, safe, and welcoming to those with physical disabilities.

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

Vincent A. Lane