

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Jaret Gibbons

DATE: May 20, 2011

RE: Co-sponsorship: **Providing for “Tear-Off” Temporary Placards for Persons with Disabilities**

In the near future, I will re-introduce House Bill 1282 from the 2009-2010 legislative session, to allow health care providers to issue a temporary placard for a person with a disability until that person receives his or her special plate or placard for persons with disabilities from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT).

Under current law, a person with a disability must submit a signed statement from the health care provider that acknowledges the disability to PennDOT when applying for a special plate or placard for persons with disabilities. This can be a long process that places unnecessary stress on a person with a disability while they wait for a special plate or placard.

My legislation will amend Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to include a tear-off temporary placard at the bottom of the health care provider’s statement. Upon signature by the health care provider, this tear-off placard may be used as a temporary placard for persons with disabilities for no more than 30 days or until the applicant receives a special plate or placard for persons with disabilities from PennDOT, whichever comes first. A person may not receive more than two tear-off placards from a health care provider per temporary disability.

It is my hope that this legislation will help many persons with disabilities in Pennsylvania. If you would like to join me as a co-sponsor of this legislation, please contact Susan Finger at 705-2060 or email sfinger@pahouse.net.