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Senate of Pennsylvania MIKE WAUGH SENATOR MEMORANDUM

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OCT 2 3 2011

PREPAREDNESS

DATE:

October 28, 2011

TO:

All Senators

FROM:

Senator Mike L. W

SUBJECT:

Request to co-sponsor legislation

Allowing drivers to obtain extra disability registration plate

I am introducing legislation that amends section 1338 of *Title 75 (Vehicles)* of *Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes* by adding a new subsection. Under this legislation, a person already approved for a disability plate may receive a duplicate plate to install on a rack designed to carry a wheelchair. The rack must be attached to the vehicle. The fee for the additional plate shall be the same as the fee for the first plate, and must be paid in addition to the fee for the first plate. There is no requirement that a vehicle owner purchase a second plate. Whether to purchase this plate is left to the discretion of the vehicle owner.

The plate must remain attached to the rack at all times while it is on the vehicle. If the rack is permanently removed from the vehicle for any reason, the duplicate plate must be immediately returned to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). The return must be in accordance with the rules contained in Section 1334 (b) and (c) of *Title 75*.

I am introducing this legislation in response to concerns by a constituent who has a wheelchair carrier attached to his vehicle. The carrier blocks the registration plate, and he is concerned about being stopped by the police for having an obscured plate, in violation of Section 1332(b) of *Title 75*.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Debbie Clark in my office at 787-3817, or via email at <u>dclark@pasen.gov</u>.