



LATE TESTIMONY

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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March 21, 2011

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

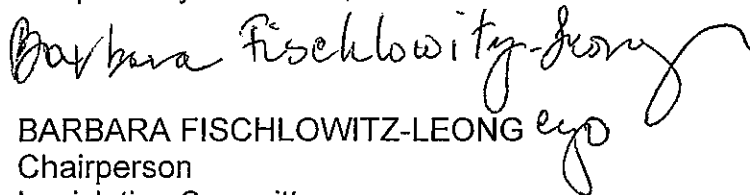
Senate Bill 1328, SD1 - Relating to Motor Vehicle Registration

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) would like to offer comments on Senate Bill 1328, SD1 that proposes to increase the motor vehicle registration fee to augment the depleted Highway Fund. From our perspective as the agency reviewing state and county construction projects, we are aware of the increased construction to maintain our highways, particularly as the Department of Transportation strove to meet its access obligations for the Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

We cannot speak to the dollar amounts needed by the Department. Nor do we wish to take away from their needed funds. We note, however, that your Committee and the full House passed House Bill 916, a bill that we strongly support to also increase the motor vehicle registration fee by a modest \$1 to pay for the parking program for persons with disabilities. There is no comparable bill passed by the Senate for your Committee to consider. We strongly believe that the content of the bills should be combined so as to put forth one bill that increases the motor vehicle registration fee to an amount that includes both the Department of Transportation's needs as well as our request (\$46). This would also require an amendment to include the statutory language changes in House Bill 916. We are prepared to offer your Committee a proposed draft that combines the two bills.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully submitted,


BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG
Chairperson
Legislative Committee


FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director