



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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**LATE**

### TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS, AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

SCR 212/SR 171 – Requesting the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives to Convene a Joint Legislative Task Force to Determine Design Solutions and Safety Features to Enhance Pedestrian Safety on State and County Roads

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) is in support of SCR 212/SR 171 because the proposed task force would determine design solutions and safety features to enhance pedestrian safety on state and county roads.

DCAB notes that pedestrians with disabilities have elevated risk factors when interacting with multi-modal forms of transportation. Persons who use wheelchairs and other mobility devices and persons of short stature are lower to the ground and are thus less visible to drivers looking over the hood of their vehicles. Pedestrians who are blind or deaf are not able to rely on audio or visual cues that other pedestrians use to avoid negative interactions. In addition, pedestrians with a mobility disability – such as persons with arthritis, vascular and orthopedic conditions – may not have the agility or reflexive speed to get out of the way of an oncoming vehicle or other mobility devices such as scooters and bikes.

Therefore, DCAB requests that the task force include the safety needs of pedestrians with disabilities in its research.

Thank you for considering DCAB's testimony on this important matter.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director