

June 17, 2019

Michigan House of Representatives – Committee on Health Policy
Anderson House Office Building – Committee Room 519

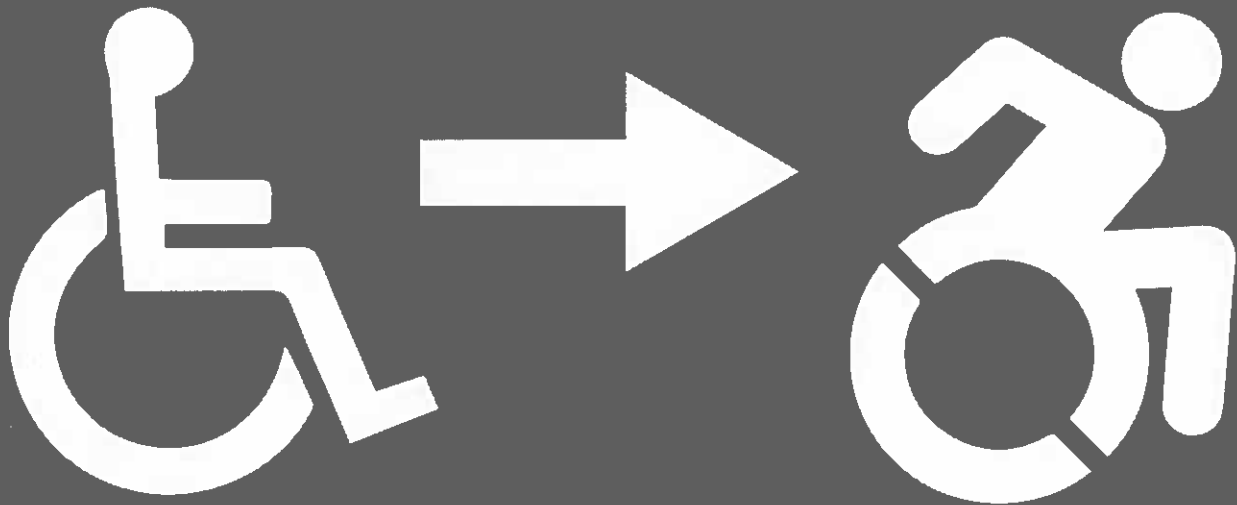
Dear chairperson Vaupel, and distinguished members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to share my testimony on House Bill 4516 and House Bill 44517. My name is Paul Palmer and as a person with a disability, I support these bills. These bills provide updated signage showing people with disabilities are on the go and are not stuck sitting at home.

People with limited mobilities have never been more involved or integrated in the community than they are today. Acknowledging that this new sign is a variance of the internationally recognized sign, it is not changed so much that people will not be able to recognize that the parking is reserved for accessibility. I also would like to share that the removal of words like "handicapped" from these signs is a step in the right direction. Handicapped implies lack of mobility, not increased mobility as many people with disabilities experience today.

I am in full support of modernizing the signs that reserve parking spaces for people with accessibility needs.

CHANGING SIGNS

CHANGING MINDS



Go Logo | Modified International Symbol of Access

Call to Action: House co-sponsors & Senate support

Why this is important:

- ▶ To change public perception of people with disabilities from one of stationary helplessness to one of active independence.
- ▶ To reflect current civil rights attitudes. The old logo represents old thinking; it was created in 1968—prior to the Disability Rights Movement.
- ▶ To more accurately portray people with disabilities as active members of their communities.

What the bills would do:

- ▶ Require that any new placement or replacement of signs, including parking signs, displaying the international symbol of access utilize the Go Logo at both state and local levels.
- ▶ Only affect new signs and signs due for replacement, but not require replacement.
- ▶ Take steps to remove the term “handicapped” from signs and other communications at state and local levels.

Buy stickers and stencils

The Accessible Icon Project is operated by people with disabilities and their allies and is a partnership run in Boston at Triangle, Inc., a non-profit education and employment center for adults with disabilities. The icon has always been free 1 use in the public domain. **Purchase proceeds from stickers and supplies go entirely to support the work of Triangle**



\$3
Square Sticker

7" in. x 7" in.
Covers standard parking signs



\$8
Reflective Sticker

7.5" in. x 7.5" in.
Covers standard parking signs



\$10
Figurines

Plastic figurines that are approx. 2.75 inches in height and vary in width as well as in color



\$275
Parking Stencil

Covers standard pavement parking sign



\$5
"No Access" Sticker

Includes 20 stickers. 2" in. x 2" in. Help bring awareness of inaccessible spaces to your community



\$25
Accessible Boating Sign

8" in. x 8" in. Brown recreation sign to indicate accessible boating



\$25

Accessible Camping Sign

8" in. x 8" in. Brown recreation sign to indicate accessible camping



\$25

Accessible Picnicking Sign

8" in. x 8" in. Brown recreation sign to indicate accessible picnicking



\$30

Accessible Trails Sign

12" in. x 18" in. Brown recreation sign to indicate accessible trails. Please indicate arrow direction: "Left," "Right," "Both"



\$30

Accessible Trails Sign

12" in. x 18" in. White recreation sign to indicate accessible trails. Please indicate arrow direction: "Left," "Right," "Both"



\$30

Accessible Trails Sign

12" in. x 18" in. Green recreation sign to indicate accessible trails. Please indicate arrow direction: "Left," "Right," "Both"

The icon is genuinely global now: in hundreds of cities and towns, at private and public organizations, used by governments and by individual citizens.



The icon now appears in formal settings, even the U.S. Department of the Treasury



The sliding doors at Marshalls have a wheelchair-riding icon that shows the figure moving through space, with motion lines to show its movement.



A sign at a hospital in Delhi, India.



Nearly every week, someone submits a photo from somewhere in the world that the icon appears: like at this registration/information booth at a conference, painted with giant accessible icons.



Tiny stenciled icon on a curb.

