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March 16, 2023

Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities

Testimony from Rep. Will Penterman in favor of AB 49

Chairman Murphy and members of the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of Assembly Bill 49, relating to disabled parking privileges on University of Wisconsin System campuses.

Current law allows individuals with a disability that impairs their ability to walk to obtain special license plates or an identification card from the DOT, entitling them to a legal exemption from meter payments and time limits on municipal parking spots that have at least a 30 minute time limit.

However, it has been brought to our attention that University of Wisconsin campuses are exempt from honoring the DOT-issued disability identifications for veterans and other disabled individuals under current law. Because of that, they are able to charge fines for parking in spots that are covered by these legal exemptions if they are located off-campus. These potential parking fines create confusion and unnecessary hurdles for disabled individuals, who must get duplicative permits from the campus or receive a ticket.

This bill expands current exemptions for people with disabled parking plates or special identification cards to include parking spots on University of Wisconsin System campuses. This bill is supported by the Wisconsin Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Thank you again for your time and consideration of AB 49. I hope you will join Senator Testin and me in supporting this legislation.



PATRICK TESTIN

STATE SENATOR

DATE: March 16, 2023
RE: **Testimony on 2023 Assembly Bill 49**
TO: The Assembly Committee on Colleges & Universities
FROM: Senator Patrick Testin

Thank you Chairman Murphy and members of the committee for accepting my testimony on Assembly Bill 49 (AB 49). This bill would include UW-System campuses among the entities required to recognize parking privileges for vehicles with disabled parking plates or special identification cards.

Currently, UW colleges and universities are not required to extend parking privileges to the disabled, and I have been made aware of circumstances where individuals with disabled plates were ticketed on UW campuses.

This bill was not drafted to cast our university system in a negative light. Indeed, many UW institutions, including the campus here in Madison, already adhere to the spirit of the law. However, this often requires the completion of duplicative paperwork, which I find to be an unnecessary barrier.

I believe this proposal is necessary because our statutes should reflect our values. The State of Wisconsin and its associated entities should make accommodations to meet the needs of those who are disabled. This legislation takes another step in that direction.

I appreciate the committee's consideration, and hope this bill earns your support.



Office of Government Relations.

Van Hise Hall
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www.wisconsin.edu

DATE: March 16, 2023

TO: Members of the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities

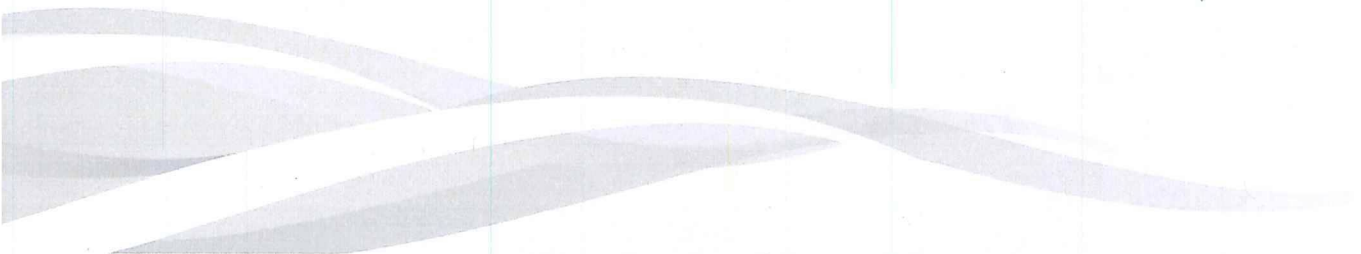
FROM: UW System Office of Government Relations

RE: Written Testimony on Assembly Bill 49

Thank you, Chairman Murphy, and committee members, for providing the UW System (UWS) an opportunity to submit written testimony on Assembly Bill 49 (AB 49).

Currently in Wisconsin, under §346.50, individuals with a disabled parking registration can exceed time limits in parking stalls that have a limit of 30 minutes or higher, and they can park for free at metered spaces of municipally owned or leased lots. The bill would extend these privileges to all the UW System institutions. Many of our campuses already comply with the spirit of the law and allow extended time limits and waive payment for vehicles displaying proper registration plates or identification cards. This bill would impact a limited amount of parking stalls across our campuses, and many of our branch campuses must already comply with the law if parking is owned/leased by the municipality instead of the state.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on this legislation.





WISCONSIN

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Assembly Committee on Colleges & Universities

2023 Assembly Bill 49

Disabled Parking Privileges on University of Wisconsin System campuses

March 16, 2023

Chairman Murphy and members of the Assembly Committee on Colleges & Universities:

The University of Wisconsin-Madison thanks the committee for the opportunity to provide written testimony for information only on Assembly Bill 49, relating to disabled parking privileges on University of Wisconsin System campuses.

UW-Madison Transportation Services is the entity that regulates parking on the UW-Madison campus. Transportation Services is responsible for the coordination and administration of all transportation-related services for the UW-Madison campus community. Primary functions include the sale/management of parking permits, special event coordination, maintenance and enforcement, construction coordination, lot and booth operations, citation payments and appeals, information technology, along with the financial/budgeting, transportation planning, and development of multimodal options. Transportation Services manages about 13,000 parking stalls and much of the associated infrastructure. The unit also manages commuter solutions such as carpooling, walking, biking, and an employee bus program.

As written, the legislation would apply to public parking regulated on the basis of time. This would apply to metered parking with a time limitation of 30 minutes or more. As an entity that has public parking which is not regulated by municipal or county ordinance, UW System campuses are not explicitly included in Wisconsin s.346.50. However, UW-Madison Transportation Services honors the spirit of the law and allows those with disabled plates or placards to park in metered spaces (with time limits over 30 minutes) for free.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit written testimony on the impact this legislation would have on UW-Madison. If you have any questions, please reach out to UW-Madison Director of State Relations Crystal Potts at crystal.potts@wisc.edu or (608) 265-4105.

Office of University Relations

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