



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 8, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

FROM: Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson
GACEC

RE: **House Bill No. 175 Accessible Parking Spaces**

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) and especially the Adult and Transition Services Committee of the GACEC would like to thank Representative DeShanna U. Neal and Senator Nicole Poore for proposing House Bill (HB) No. 175. HB 175 defines accessible parking spaces, incorporating the federal standards found in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and provides additional requirements that enhance these standards for persons with disabilities in Delaware. There are also other important provisions in the proposed legislation such as increased penalties for unlawfully parking in accessible spaces and requiring property owners to have a permit and process to ensure compliance.

This legislation is clearly needed in Delaware. We appreciate the efforts of Representative Neal and Senator Poore to bring this bill forward to aid individuals with disabilities. It is our hope that reiterating the ADA's parking requirements, defining the additional Delaware requirements as well as increasing penalties for disregarding the laws governing those spaces will keep people from ignoring the law.

Thank you again for this proposed legislation. We applaud your efforts and look forward to working with you on other issues affecting the disability community. Please feel free to contact me or Pam Weir at the GACEC office should you have any questions on disability issues.

CC: The Honorable Nicole Majeski, Secretary, Delaware Department of Transportation
Erik Warner, GACEC Adult and Transition Committee Chairperson
Terri Hancharick