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Transportation Committee
Monday, February 6th, 2020

Testimony given by:
Holly Noble, Administrator
Attica Long Term Care

Chairman Shannon Francis and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, share, and be a part of the discussions in regard to HB2267 and the obstacles facing our long-term care nursing homes when applying for special disability license plates.

Long-term care involves a variety of services which are designed to meet a person's health or personal care needs during a short or long period of time. Many of those to whom we provide services are feeble, handicapped, and/or using walkers or wheelchairs. Many of them receive medical attention outside the walls of the long-term care home in which they reside; therefore, in-house transportation is a daily occurrence. We are a small nursing home with only 46 beds. In just this past January alone, we had 35 transportation trips. Of those trips, 9 of them were outside our county. Many times, we take more than one resident on each trip. Because our transportation van has a side only handicap door, without a handicap placard, we are limited to parking at the very end of a parking lot making it especially difficult when those parking lots have curbs at the end of the lot. In addition, walking the length of a parking lot to where they need to be can be extremely difficult for most of our residents. This issue has been a real burden for our facility and our residents.

With this being said, having a handicapped license plate to cover our vehicles as a whole is extremely important. Many of our residents come straight from the hospital after having an unexpected injury or health scare and are unable to care for themselves. They do not bring with them a handicap placard to keep in our facility, and requiring them to go to the courthouse to apply for one is simply not reasonable. Many residents no longer even have a car.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration in letting us bring our concerns to your attention. I respectfully thank you again for your time and hope you will allow nursing facilities to apply for a handicap license plate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Holly Noble", written over a white background.

Holly Noble, Administrator