

**Testimony for H.B. 6190, AN ACT CONCERNING THE  
PENALTY FOR UNAUTHORIZED PARKING IN A PARKING SPACE  
RESERVED FOR PERSONS WITH BLINDNESS AND PERSONS  
WITH A DISABILITY THAT IMPAIRS THE ABILITY TO WALK.**

**Transportation Committee Public Hearing – February 14, 2011**

Honorable Members of the Transportation Committee:

Within the last six months, I have witnessed several times when I sat in my car waiting for my wife while she shopped in the local stores. Here are a few of them:

(1)

Back in July, I was parked at the Big Y in North Branford, and I watched a lady go into the Big Y not once, but three times for groceries.

She had a new Lexus, and she was parked it in a Handicapped parking spot.

She did not look handicapped to me because she was about 45 years old.

(2)

Another time in October, I witnessed a high school or a college student parked at Stop&Shop in Branford, and he went into the store to buy his groceries. He came out ten minutes later with his groceries. He must have had his mother's or father's car. He was also parked in an handicapped space.

(3)

Finally, lately, I saw a man in his forties wearing sweat pants getting out of his car at Rite Aid to buy something. He too was parked in a parking spot for the handicapped.

These situations go on everyday across our state. Normal physical people taking up parking spaces of the handicapped. It appears the worst around Christmas time when parking spots up close at a mall or at the grocery stores are slim.

To me as a citizen of CT, they are illegally parked.

Therefore, I believe that stiffer laws and fines should be put into law. I know that we have Public Act 09-187, however, we need more in it or better enforcement of it.

Please take into consideration the People that need the Handicapped Spaces to Park.

Sincerely,  
James Dwyer  
North Branford, CT