

My name is Dr. Lisa Weisinger, I live at 3 Fawn Brook in West Hartford. I would like to thank the Government, Administration and Elections Committee members for reading this testimony regarding Bill 5050, An Act Concerning Modernizing Parking Signs for People with Disabilities.

I have a 21 year old son, Jamie, who has Down syndrome who is not disabled or handicapped. Some of his friends are physically challenged but none of them consider themselves handicapped. It is time to stop thinking of our children as handicapped or disabled and time to consider how abled bodied they are. Let's change the conversation and discuss our children's attributes. Let's discuss their abilities, not their disabilities.

Changing the parking signs is one small step in the right direction to change the attitudes in our state. Our children have the right to live in a society that gives them the opportunity to be successful and views them as able-bodied residents. Society is changing, let's change with the times.

Please vote "yes" for HB 5050 and let the citizens of Connecticut know that you value our children and adults and see them for all

that they can do, not what they can't. Thank you for your support of the bill.

Lisa Weisinger, M.D.