

# **SB388 Talking Points.pdf**

Uploaded by: Cassilly, Senator Bob

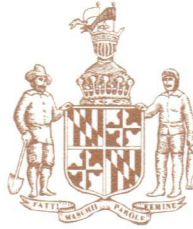
Position: FAV

**ROBERT G. CASSILLY**  
*Legislative District 34*  
Harford County

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Joint Committee on Administrative,  
Executive, and Legislative Review

Joint Committee on Federal Relations



**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

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February 5, 2021

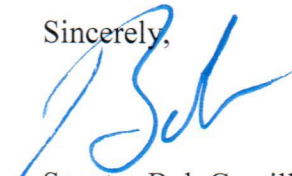
**RE: Senate Bill 388 – Vehicle Registration – Disability Plates – Parking Meter Fees**

Dear Committee Members:

I request your support for SB 388. Under the current law, an individual confined to a wheelchair is not required to feed a parking meter installed by a local jurisdiction. Some local jurisdictions have installed electronic parking machines that issue parking tickets which the driver purchases from a machine and then places on their vehicle dashboard. Those machines are usually installed such that they are capable of being operated by a handicapped person who is sitting in front of the machine. Some local jurisdictions are now ticketing handicapped vehicles because, they contend, the prohibition on ticketing handicapped vehicles for not feeding parking meters does not apply where the parking ticket machines can be operated by the handicapped. These jurisdictions rely for their position on current state law which allows that tickets can be issued to handicapped drivers where the parking meter “meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.” for the handicapped meters. However, there are no federal requirements to make parking meters suitable for the handicapped so local jurisdictions automatically comply with the non-existent federal regulations when they install a single ticket dispenser that complies with federal standards for centralized machines. Under this local interpretation of state law, a wheelchair confined driver who wants to avoid a ticket must park their vehicle, move their wheelchair from their vehicle, move their body from their vehicle into their wheelchair, maneuver to the nearest sidewalk access ramp, proceed to the parking ticket

dispensing machine, purchase a ticket, roll back to the nearest sidewalk ramp, move from the wheelchair back into the vehicle, place a parking receipt on the vehicle dashboard, move from the vehicle back into the wheelchair, and maneuver back to the nearest sidewalk access ramp. This level of difficulty is sufficiently extreme to dissuade those drivers confined to wheelchairs from accessing destinations that are otherwise available to the general public. If this bill is approved, wheelchair bound drivers would not be required to operate a meter under such difficult circumstances and would be encouraged to move about as intended by the federal and state laws addressing freedom of the handicapped.

Sincerely,



Senator Bob Cassilly

# **SB 388 Support Maryland Developmental Disabilities**

Uploaded by: Kolp, Ande

Position: FAV



## MARYLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COALITION

Dedicated to the rights and quality of life for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland

### Judicial Proceedings Committee

February 10, 2021

Senate Bill 388: Vehicle Registration – Disability Plates – Parking Meter Fees

Position: Support



8601 Robert Fulton Dr  
Suite 140  
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The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Coalition is comprised of five statewide organizations that are committed to improving the opportunities and outcomes for Marylanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). As such, the DD Coalition supports SB388.



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The bill would repeal the state law requirement that a parking meter be noncompliant with the federal American's with Disabilities Act before an individual who is issued special disability registration plates is exempted from parking meter fees.

We believe this change in law will support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who drive, or utilize specially adapted and licensed transportation from providers, to access parts of the community with metered parking, without worrying about having to download and navigate parking pay apps, or fearing parking meter time expirations/citations.



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We applaud the sponsor for endeavoring to create a more welcoming community for all through this proposed revision of law.



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Disabilities Council

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