

## **Steven Sepe**

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**From:** Tina Pedersen <ramptina@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 26, 2026 9:17 PM  
**To:** House State Government and Elections Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of House Bill 7308

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Chairman Evan P. Shanley  
House Committee on Corporations  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Shanley and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 7308, which would provide for specialized plates for vehicles modified to be accessible for individuals with disabilities.

As a wheelchair user, I rely on my vehicle to maintain my independence and participate in my community. My vehicle is equipped with hand controls, a wheelchair locking system, and a ramp, which allow me to travel safely and efficiently.

The proposed bill would provide numerous benefits for individuals like me, including:

- The ability to park in designated accessible parking spaces without the need for a placard
- Exemption from certain vehicle size requirements
- Use of areas where additional space is needed for ramps

Having a specialized plate would eliminate the risk of forgetting or losing a placard, which could prevent me from accessing essential services and activities. Additionally, plates are more convenient and harder to steal than placards.

I appreciate that this bill recognizes the unique needs of individuals with disabilities and provides a solution that is recognized in all 50 states. The specialized plate would be clearly visible to parking attendants, making it easier for me to access the services and facilities I need.

I strongly urge you to support House Bill 7308 and provide this important accessibility option for Rhode Islanders with disabilities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Thank You,**

**Tina Guenette**

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**President / CEO / Founder**

*2023 Community Choice RI person of the year,*

*United States Access Board- Public Member*

*Governor's Commission on Disability*

*Governors commission on Aging*

*Governors workforce board Adult pathways commission*

*2024 America's Civic Ms*

*2023 North America World Ambassador*

*USA SLICC Ambassador 2022*

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**“Don’t just SIT there.... make a DIFFERENCE”**

**“If you can’t stand up....Stand out”**