

## HANDICAPPER PARKING

House Bills 5411 and 5412 as enrolled  
First Analysis (10-12-92)

Sponsor: Rep. Jim McBryde  
Committee: Transportation

### ***THE APPARENT PROBLEM:***

Abuses of handicapper parking laws are a source of daily frustration for handicappers attempting to work, shop, go to school and move about freely in their communities. Public Act 291 of 1967 was amended in 1989 to allow local governments to enact more stringent penalties and fines for violators of handicapped parking laws, and amendments were added by Public Act 42 of 1991 to permit the governing boards of college campuses and universities to impose similar fines for handicapper violations that occur on their campuses. A provision found in the 1989 amendments also allows local governments to authorize and use persons other than police officers as volunteers to issue handicapper parking citations to violators. Volunteers, however, first must pass a special training program before they are qualified to issue citations. Some people believe state colleges and universities could also benefit from using volunteers to help enforce handicapper parking laws on their campuses.

### ***THE CONTENT OF THE BILLS:***

Public Act 291 of 1967 permits the governing boards of state colleges and universities to enact parking, traffic and pedestrian laws for their campuses that substantially correspond to standards set forth under the Uniform Traffic Code. Also, the Michigan Vehicle Code permits a law enforcement agency or a municipality to implement or administer a program to authorize and use persons other than police officers as volunteers to issue citations to violators of state or local handicapper parking laws. The bills would amend the acts to permit state colleges or universities to authorize and use volunteers to enforce handicapper parking laws. Neither bill could take effect unless both were enacted.

House Bill 5411 would amend Public Act 291 of 1967 (MCL 390.891) to allow the governing board of a state college or university to authorize a person

other than a law enforcement officer to issue and serve a citation to someone who violated a handicapper parking law. In order to do this, however, the board would have to implement a program to teach persons how to issue citations as provided in the vehicle code, and a person would have to successfully complete the program before he or she could issue handicapper parking citations.

House Bill 5412 would amend the vehicle code (MCL 257.675d) to include within the definition of "local unit of government" a state college or university and, thus, would permit them to implement and administer programs that use volunteers in place of police officers to enforce handicapper parking laws.

### ***FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:***

The House Fiscal Agency says the bills would not affect state or local budget expenditures. (10-12-92)

### ***ARGUMENTS:***

#### ***For:***

The bills would authorize the governing boards of colleges and universities to implement and administer programs that would train persons to enforce handicapper parking laws on state college and university campuses on a voluntary basis. Local police agencies were authorized by Public Act 89 of 1989 to operate similar programs and, apparently, many municipalities that have used volunteers to enhance the enforcement of handicapper parking laws have been pleased both with the low cost and effectiveness of such programs.