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## **HB 16-1362 SUPPORT**

### CONCERNING THE SALE OF VALUABLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS FOR BENEFITTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

The purpose of this program is to sell uniquely valuable vehicle letter/number registration numbers (numbers), particularly retired ones, including low numbers, single - triple digits/letters and retired personalized ones.

The funds are then used to assist Colorado's 80,000 most vulnerable citizens with disabilities, who are eligible for Social Security, SSI and Medicaid long term care, but are unable to navigate the application and appeals process on their own. A pilot funded by The Colorado Health Foundation has now found the success rate for SSI, for the average homeless person applying is about 10%. If they have someone trained in application assistance to help them in the process the approval rate goes to 60%!

If one stops using a registration letter/number for 13 months, then it is retired permanently. As a result we have identified approximately 12,000 retired numbers and personalized which are marketable. No single digit letter or number has been issued in our lifetime prior to this past January when the first 2 were sold.

To date, we have sold 27 letters, numbers, and personalized, with sales of about \$62,000. The letter X sold for \$20,000! SMILE brought in \$3,200.

We now have proof of concept; that this will work. We now need to take the next step and based on lessons learned thus far, and move the sales process to a private contractor to conduct. The State of Texas has now been doing a similar program for 5 years, and has generated over \$50 million in sales, with a net to the state of \$28 million. In 2010 #6 sold in Delaware for \$675,000. The world's record, in UAE, for #1 was \$14.1M!

The bill moves the oversight of the program to the Colorado Disability Funding Committee (CDFC) located in the Department of Personnel and Administration, who is the entity created in 2011 to disburse the funds generated. It eliminates the License Plate Auction Group who was created in 2011 to oversee sales of registration numbers and streamlines the process. The CDFC is required to retain authority to determine;

- To issue an RFP and determine who the contractor will be,
- To approve the letter/number combinations to be sold at a given time,
- To approve the price point at which letter/number combinations will be sold at,
- To make decisions in dealing with the contractor,
- To work with DOR and CSP to assure a smooth process for everyone.

Please support this very important legislation. I will cost the taxpayers nothing, it does not make anyone do anything, but if they want to give us their money we will use it for a very good purpose!