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Cc: mkrepelka@town.arlington.ma.us, ahrc@town.arlington.ma.us

Date: 03/06/2019 12:49 PM

To:

Subject: Town of Arlington Warrant Article 80

Dear Members of the Arlington Disability Commission:

I am writing to ask your support for Warrant Article 80, which would support a parking exemption for those experiencing medical and/or financial hardship. As a disabled, eight-year resident of Arlington, I believe it is in the town's best interest to promote a class- and ability-sensitive parking policy.

It is my understanding that a resident could try to obtain a waiver at a Select Board hearing. However, as someone who has had to go through the disability application process, I can attest that being forced to air your health and financial shortcomings in front of a group of strangers (and in the case of the parking waiver, on public television) is a degrading and dehumanizing process for the applicant. A much kinder approach would be to allow the resident to submit an application that is approved based on meeting specific criteria.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Warmly, Pam McKenna

36 Fountain Road Arlington, MA 02476