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Secretary Mark Gottlieb  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
PO Box 7910  
Madison, WI 53707-7910

Dear Secretary Gottlieb:

On behalf of people with disabilities and their families, we write to encourage your department to revise its identification card application (MV3001) to clearly and conspicuously notify eligible applicants that they can obtain an identification card free of charge in order to vote.

Wisconsin's new voter identification law (Act 23) requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to provide a free identification card to any eligible elector who requests that the card be provided for free in order to vote. While DOT's current identification card application provides a box for applicants to check to request a free ID for voting, we found this section of the form not clearly designated and hard to find. In fact, the corresponding notice next to the box for requesting a free ID does not mention the word "vote" until the very last word, making it less likely for some applicants to locate or determine what this section is for.

People with disabilities already face significant barriers to the electoral process, resulting in a voting rate of 15 percent below the rate of the general voting population. DOT's confusing state identification card application only contributes to this problem by making it harder for eligible voters to obtain a free ID card in order to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

Please revise the state identification card application so that the section for requesting a free ID for voting is prominently placed on top of the application in clear language in a large font.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

City of Madison's Commission for People with Disabilities