



FRANKLIN D. COOKE, JR.  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
16<sup>th</sup> District

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE OF DELAWARE  
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

COMMITTEES  
Public Safety & Homeland Security, Chair  
Corrections  
Gaming & Pari-Mutuels Housing & Community  
Affairs Judiciary  
Labor  
Veterans Affairs

## House Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee Meeting Minutes

4.13.22

***This committee meeting has been recorded and may be accessed via [legis.delaware.gov](https://legis.delaware.gov)***

Chair Cooke called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. Members present included Reps. Briggs King, Bush, Chukwuocha, Lynn, Morris, Smyk. Rep. Spiegelman was also present. For a list of guests present, please see the attendance list below.

Chair Cooke introduced **HB 350, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 21 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES.**

Rep. Spiegelman explained that this act was brought to him by Jen Staley, his constituent, and asked her to comment on the legislation.

With permission from the Chair, Rep. Spiegelman asked Jen Staley to discuss the legislation.

Jen Staley said that her brother-in-law, Jason Staley, committed suicide in November of 2020. She explained that Jason loved his trucks, and that after his passing her husband wanted to purchase a vanity tag on a suicide prevention license plate to honor his brother and provide essential funds to suicide prevention efforts. However, Delaware does not currently offer a suicide prevention license plate. She contacted Rep. Spiegelman and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, who requested she gather signatures from 200 people who were willing to pay \$50 for the custom license plates. She emphasized that half of the proceeds from the license plates would go towards suicide prevention efforts in the State of Delaware.

Rep. Briggs King noted that the legislature has become more involved in suicide prevention within the past few years and passed legislation adding the suicide hotline number to student identification cards. She thanked Jen Staley for sharing her story.

Rep. Morris thanked Jen Staley for her testimony and invited her to come back and share her story with the House chamber when the bill is brought to the floor.

Rep. Chukwuocha thanked Jen Staley for her work on this issue and said that he believes this license plate, similar to the suicide prevention signs on bridges, will make a difference.

Rep. Smyk thanked Jen Staley for attending the committee hearing and echoed that she attend the floor vote on the legislation.

Chair Cooke opened the floor to public comment. Seeing none, Chair Cooke requested a motion.

A motion was made by Rep. Lynn and seconded by Rep. Morris to release HB 350 from committee; motion carried. Yes= 7 (Briggs King, Bush, Chukwuocha, Cooke, Lynn, Morris,



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Smyk); No= 0; Absent= 3 (Osienski, Vanderwende, Freel). The bill was released from committee with a F=0, M=7, U=0 vote.

Chair Cooke adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Wyatt Patterson



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#### Attendance List

- Jen Staley
- Michael Staley