

Jodi Hoyer – HB 606: Written - OPP

I live in Franklin County Ohio. This photo is of my beautiful mother, Gloria. She was a devoted mother to my sister who has MRDD and cerebral palsy, grandmother and great grandmother, talented advertising agency manager and cake designer and volunteer to the Boys Club of America.

Mom resided in long-term care for six years with Lewy Body Dementia and during that time, was denied many things - care that she PAID for. Things like:

- Oxygen
- Pain medication
- Medication for her dementia
- Physical therapy
- Clean, dry bedding
- Food prepared in a way that she could chew it
- Safety with her medications
- Safety to prevent being hit by a car or other harm
- Hospice orders implemented

My mom was taken to an appointment and dropped off alone in a parking lot - surrounded by a busy street - on a 35° day without a jacket. This appointment was not even her appointment. If not for my sister checking up on her that day, our mom would not have been discovered until perhaps too late. The story was covered on our local news station, but to our dismay, the nursing home was not held accountable for their actions.

My mother was also overdosed twice with the admission of Narcan.

We moved her several times, each nursing home experience ending up similar to the previous due to what seems to be the inability to enforce the Ohio Revised Code as it pertains to patient's rights (mostly centered around what the Department of Health can "see" to substantiate). Our photos and videos, although time, date-stamped and GPS coordinate logged (admissible court evidence), were rarely accepted with the complaints our family filed. Without having the complaint substantiated, it is extremely hard to prosecute a case of neglect.

WE NEED CAMERAS to document what the department of health state and law enforcement state they cannot see happening when abuse occurs. It is also extremely important to substantiate what kind of care our loved ones are receiving now that visits are now being limited to window visits.

As one might guess, I am OPPOSED to HB 606/SB 308, as it sets the bar too high for accountability and consequences for every day neglect.

Things like going without food and water will be excused if it relates to COVID-19. These things are critical to SURVIVAL and should not be legislated away, even in an emergency.

Our elderly and disabled have rights. They have the right to access the basic needs for survival, for the care that they pay for to be delivered in a caring fashion, to survive in a clean environment and to have the Ohio Revised Code executed and enforced with regards to patient rights and long-term care. ALL of the codes that pertain to them - not just the codes that have a paper trail. Can't see it to substantiate it? Put cameras in so the ORC can be executed and enforced!

HB 606/SB 308 does not support these rights. Nursing homes MUST be excluded from this bill.

The families of long-term care residence speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. We need to be heard.

Thank you.



