

Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide support testimony for HB 73, the Dave and Angie Patient and Health Provider Protection Act.

My name is Tammy Lyons and my husband, William, caught Covid in September of 2021. On September 13th William was admitted to Genesis hospital in Zanesville Ohio for a fever and chills that he was experiencing. I dropped him off at the doors and that was the last time I saw my husband until the time he died.

The doctors had asked him if he was vaccinated, and he told them no. On day one of his admittance, they administered Remdesivir without our knowledge. In addition to the Remdesivir, they gave him all kinds of pain meds and the doctor kept telling William that he needed to go on the ventilator, but William continued refusing.

The hospital denied William food and liquids and they would not let me, his wife, visit him. Nurse Brandy told my husband that he might as well face the fact that he wasn't getting any better. I tried to sneak food inside his care packages, but hospital staff went through the packages and removed the food. I was no longer allowed to drop off packages for him. The hospital would not allow it. They were administering all kinds of drugs to William and at the same time, starving him to death.

My sons, Brian, Paul, and William III made three attempts to get into the hospital to advocate for their father and the hospital refused to let him. The hospital even threatened to call the police on my sons.

On September 30th, 2021, 17 days after being admitted to the hospital, William coded. This was the only time the hospital staff really spoke to me; all the other prior calls were short. On October 2nd, 2021, the nurse called me and said that William had done good through the night but when I logged into Williams MyChart account I found a doctor's note stating that William is dying in front of him and there is nothing they can do.

My daughter, Kayla Paul, called the hospital to inform them of what I found noted in Williams MyChart.

It wasn't until my daughter confronting them with the MyChart information that the doctor finally called me to say that I could come in and say goodbye to him.

I know the hospital was responsible for killing him with all the medication and lack of food and water. If I could re-live that moment again, I would never have taken him to the hospital, and he would probably still be here with me today.

Please do not let this continue to happen, pass HB 73 to protect a patients right to seek treatment or medication that goes against "hospital protocol".

Thank you,

Tammy Lyons