

Proponent for HB 236

Chairman Huffman, Vice-Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the Senate Health Committee”.

I am writing you today to express my profound belief that HB 236 would have saved my father's life, back in 2021-22. On December 19, 2021, my father was taken to a doctor's appointment for possible bronchitis. While in the office he was tested for sinusitis, flu and Covid 19. He was diagnosed with sinusitis and a cough. On Wednesday, December 22, 2022, he began having a fever and delirium. We took him to the emergency room where he was admitted for pneumonia and Covid 19. I and my brother were very clear that he was not to receive remdesivir as his kidneys would not tolerate the treatment.

(Dad had been quite active just days before this happened. He was working on the backup generator for his home, and enjoyed working on his truck, etc.. He was a pretty active person for age 92. He would go mini golfing with me on nice days preceding this December. Dad was also a former Marine, proudly serving his country.)

The first three days Dad was in the hospital no one was allowed to see him. I made regular calls to check on him thinking he might be released to go home soon. I also received a call from one of his treating physicians about giving him Remdesivir. I told him very clearly Not to give my dad that drug.

Finally, on Christmas Day, the family was permitted to visit Dad. He was not the same man that I had been with when he was admitted to hospital. He was very out of touch with what was going on. He had lost a lot of weight and was very pale. Within days, he was sent to hospice as this was our family's only recourse.

After my dad passed, I printed off his medical records and discovered he had indeed been given Remdesivir, completely against my wishes. I know that the treatment dad received in hospital was the cause of his death. If I had been allowed to be with him this treatment would have been avoided. Please, consider the many patients like my dad who had no representation present while being treated.

I urge the committee to vote yes on HB 236

Sincerely,
Mrs. Roxie Fiste
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