

November 2024

Senator Stephen A. Huffman, Chair

Senator Terry Johnson, Vice Chair

Nickie J. Antonio, Ranking Member

And Members of the Health Committee

Thank you for taking time to consider our story in support of HB236 The Never Alone Act.

My sister's name is Deborah Mikolajewski. She lives in Piqua, OH.

My name is Chritine Mikolajewski. I live in Englewood, OH.

We both made healthcare our career.

Deborah is a retired RN who worked in ICU for 30 years plus.

I was a Family Practice Residency Coordinator for 20 years and a Practice Manager for four physicians for 15 years.

We are both very much aware of the demands often encountered by physicians and nurses.

COVID19 was by far the worst experience for healthcare personnel AND patients AND their families.

We started our journey in support of The Never Alone Act in September 2023. We will never be able to adequately express our thanks to Rep Miller and Rep Lear as well as all the representatives who supported HB236. We attended the House session when this Bill was presented for a vote and passed. It is still very difficult to describe how hopeful that moment was for us.

My sister and I are so willing to add our many years of experience to help facilitate the planning and integration of patient advocacy in healthcare settings once this Bill is passed by the Senate and signed into law by Governor DeWine.

This bill will be life changing if this nightmare ever happens again. Please read our Mother's story and consider how her life and her family's could have been so different.

We urge the Committee to vote YES on HB 236.

Respectfully

Christine Mikolajewski

Deborah Mikolajewski

