

My name is Virginia Barborak and I'm a resident of Salem, Ohio. I am the mother of Isabella Cornwell, who is an 18 year-old senior in high school. Isabella was diagnosed with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) when she was one year old.

It took a lot of doctors and examinations for her to have a diagnosis. As a result, Isabella has spent her young life in treatment, taking biologic shots every 2 weeks.

Before Isabella turned 15, she had 4 knee surgeries to correct your arthritic knees, and both of her hips were replaced. Arthritis continues to wreak havoc on her tiny body, but she and her doctors, and her parents never give up.

I am writing today to ask you to please support HB 8 as biomarker testing plays a critical role in diagnosing this disease, and ensuring that patients receive the most effective and personalized treatment.

I am happy to testify in person, or to speak to anyone on the committee, or share the story of our family and the struggles that we have been through trying to make sure that Isabella has a normal life.

Please feel free to contact me at 330-277-9559.

Virginia Barborak

Sent from my iPhone