

Written Testimony on HB 770  
Submitted by **Jodi Hoyer**  
Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, **November 28, 2020**

Chair Ginter, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Howse, and the members of the House Aging and Long-Term Care Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony as an interested party of HB 770. I am the sister of Christy J. Buzzard, who resides at Columbus Colony Elderly Care In Westerville, Ohio.

It is imperative Christy has access to her guardian, Vicki Krafthefer. Christy is:

- mentally retarded
- paralyzed on the entire right side of her body
- has seizures and frequent migraine headaches
- and autism

Vicki holds the legal authority for decision-making for Christy and is her primary point of contact for emotional support and advocacy since 2005. This is much more than a regular visitor, family member or essential caregiver. The title to best represent this is “Resident Representative”.

It’s necessary for Vicki to assess Christy’s physical and emotional well being, as well as track her seizures and report to Christy’s specialists with this data.

Vicki also assures Christy has the items she needs for both entertainment and occupational therapy, clips Christy’s fingernails (as the nursing home states they cannot), brings up her seasonal clothing. The nursing home closets allow for limited clothing items and can not accommodate clothing for all seasons, so these items have to be rotated. Vicki is also the vital link between Christy and the rest of our family; visits and games with Vicki remind Christy she is still thought of and loved by all of her family - even when they can’t visit.

Please note: Christy cannot dial a telephone and her nursing home will not allow her to have a voice-activated Echo Device to call her family, so she has been virtually cut off from her family unless the staff calls for her. The facility decides when it’s convenient for the call to happen - not when a Christy asks, which is against the Ohio Revised Code for resident rights. Christy’s calls

to family are made on speaker phone by the staff with employees and other residents in the room that join in on Christy's phone calls. She has zero privacy - another infringement upon her rights per the Ohio Revised Code.

Thank you for this opportunity to be heard.

Respectfully,

Jodi Hoyer

[925 Darby Creek Dr](#)

[614-406-8911](#)