

**Monday, September 27, 2021**

Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chairman Cutrona, Ranking Member Liston and members of the House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee thank you for the opportunity to provide interested party testimony today on Sub SB 58. My name is Phorfina Wade. My brother is currently facing many challenges currently in long-term care, especially since covid appeared without having a camera in his room to be able to communicate with him at all times.

**I am listing myself as an interested party because I support cameras being permitted in resident rooms, however, I support these concerns being addressed before this bill is passed out of the Families, Aging and Human Services Committee.**

1. Concern that Assisted Living Facilities are not included in this bill and only Federally Funded Facilities are subject to this law. We need cameras in both long-term care facilities and I hope both are included in this bill.
2. Concerns about wording in this bill in to stating **IF** a facility prescribes a form, or **MAY** prescribe a form. I feel there needs to be a form to protect residents, roommates and avoid any confusion on what a standard form used by all should include. There would be no need to have different forms at different facilities, separate policies at facilities proved to be chaotic in the pandemic. Standard policies and procedures for all would be less confusing for all involved.
3. Concerns that if a facility does not prescribe a form that the process to follow is not explained.
4. It is not clear if a sign must be put outside of the room. In sponsorship testimony it was stated legally this notice should be posted outside the door. The bill leaves it optional.

These cameras are long-overdue in our state. There are not many places I go that **do not** have cameras that **do not** need my permission to be recorded. If the resident or resident representative wishes to have a camera, and permission is obtained from roommate if there is one, then there is no privacy violation.

Currently, most families do not know from one day to the next if they can visit loved ones, this camera bill assures daily oversight by the family to help avoid bad outcomes. Please ensure this bill will allow residents or resident representatives to easily install a camera if they wish to do so in all long-term care settings without any obvious challenges.

Respectfully,

*Phorfina Wade*

Phorfina Wade

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