Hello,

I have a mom with dementia who lives in Parkside Village in Westerville Ohio. She receives excellent physical care but I believe her emotional needs are not being met because of the no visitation policy. Family members or "essential caregivers", as stated in HB 770 are the only ones who can provide the emotional support, care, and connection they need. All the books on Alzheimer's disease tell us that although the mind is failing, the ability to feel emotion, recognize a smile, and find comfort in a touch or hug remain.

We need to find a way to ease the negative effects that loneliness and isolation bring. I am writing to ask you to please pass this legislation and allow family to have visits with our loved ones.

Thank you,

Cynthia Beitman