

Elderly Nursing Home Abuse Advocates Est. 2011 Founder Steve Piskor Elderlynursinghomeabuseadvocates.com Facebook.com/estherpiskor 216 420-3869

Dear Chair Susan Manchester and committee members,

I have been fighting to get this legislation for cameras in long term care facilities for 10 years and two years ago I got Senator Antonio and Representative Brent to introduce legislation for cameras in all long term care facilities in the name of my mother Esther Piskor.

After the first time the legislation was introduced it failed. In January it was resubmitted. In May of this year the Ohio Senate unanimously passed Esther's Law Ohio Senate Bill 58. The original language as it passed in the house is still the same. It refers to section 3721.21 of the Ohio Revised Code which defines long term care facilities as nursing homes and residential care facility (assisted living). This campaign to get this legislation was always for all residents, not limiting it to just one portion. As the legislation passed through the Senate I was not aware that the legislative service committee changed the law to Medicaid and Medicare facilities only. I had no reason to believe otherwise. I should have been made aware of this situation.

Now I'm caught between a brick and a hard place. Do I say pass the law as the Senate did and look for amendments later, or take a stand and say send it back to the Senate to include assisted living facilities with the chance of the legislation failing again as I don't know the reason why it was changed.

Will the senate accept your recommendation to amend to include assisted living facilities? If they deny it does it come back to your committee as originally passed by the Senate?

I never thought a situation like this would come of this legislation to protect our loved ones from abuse and neglect. I don't know why it is so hard to get laws passed to stop the brutal abuse my mother went through. I took her abuse to use it for something positive to make out of it, to let everyone know that this is real, it's happening and we need to stop it. I feel like 10 years of my life fighting for this was nothing. We are gambling with legislation to protect our loved ones. This is not the time to bet on lives. It the time to put a stop to abuse.

https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/another-state-considers-regulating-cameras-inassisted-living-residentrooms/?fbclid=IwAR0RbNMAhKCroIE3StgDsNhJX5KmvdAlGTSXp9yIjC_IsWHRHwqLMVya-Ss https://theohiostar.com/2019/12/29/proposed-ohio-law-would-allow-nursing-home-residentsto-put-cameras-in-theirrooms/?fbclid=IwAR2Bkcc0KsFvRyuDs7hY2FFxPNyJpdssZGJBDrJEKp0AqXK7YgXOtSsm19M

https://ohiohouse.gov/members/juanita-o-brent/news/rep-brent-and-sen-antonio-introducebill-to-allow-private-cameras-in-nursing-homes-101580

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