

Elderly Nursing Home Abuse Advocates

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Founder Steve Piskor

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Dear Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Ohio Health Committee.

My name is Steve Piskor, this legislation SB 58 Esther's Law is named after my mother Esther Piskor who was brutally abused in nursing homes. I placed a hidden camera in her room after I suspected something was wrong, and caught 8 aides involved in her abuse. The story of her abuse went worldwide and every major media around the world was calling me to get the story.

The Ohio Department of Aging, The Ohio Department of Health, The Cleveland Police, the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, and the Ohio Attorney General then Mike DeWine all investigated all were involved in the investigation and prosecution of the aides. The Ohio Health Care association was also involved. One aide went to prison for 10 ½ years, one to jail for six months, three were fired and three were disciplined. The nursing home was fined \$357,000, and that's just from one nursing home that received media attention. I did not want media attention on the other nursing homes that abused her.

My mother was in a nursing home for 15 years, and in that time period she was in six different nursing homes and was neglected and abused in all of them. The second nursing home Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine placed a hidden camera in to see if she was OK. I found out later that the nursing home knew the camera was in her room, so I placed another one in and caught many aides and nurses gross neglecting her. Nine employees were fired, this included aides, a nurse, and assistant nursing supervisor and the administrator. I gave the video to the nursing home and told them if they don't take care of this problem, I will and you're not going to like how I do it. I didn't want to go through everything we went through with the abuse that received all the media attention.

You see, if it was not for the camera my mother would have been killed long ago. We need Esther's Law to keep our loved ones free of neglect and abuse, and treated with dignity and respect. By law you have an obligation to do this, and we have an obligation to make sure you follow the law.

I have much more about this and why we need cameras in all long term care facilities and look forward to testifying in person to answer all you question

Steve Piskor