

To: Chairwoman Donovan and members of the House Health and Human Services Committee:

RE: House Bill 7969 ELECTRONIC MONITORING IN NURSING AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES .

I am Daniel Liparini and I am writing in support of HB 7969 which empowers residents of long term care facilities by giving them and their legal representatives the right to oversee their own condition and care by installing a camera in their room, with the consent of their roommate if they have one.

Current practices in most long-term care facilities in Rhode Island don't allow this practice, citing privacy as the reason. But the security and wellbeing of the patient and the peace of mind of their loved ones is just as, if not more, important. This is especially important for patients with dementia and/or communication difficulties who cannot always effectively communicate their issues.

Twenty other states have passed similar legislation. And this bill is broadly supported by the elder advocacy community. In addition, this type of monitoring can eliminate questions of what happens if there is an unexplained injury that occurs in the patient's room. Right now such an occurrence leads to a fair amount of distrust and finger pointing that would largely disappear with this type of monitoring.

Please support this important legislation.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Liparini  
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