

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Lise Faulise <lise.faulise@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:38 PM  
**To:** Rep. Donovan, Susan R; House Health and Human Services Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Craven, Robert E.  
**Subject:** In Support Testimony of H7969

March 25, 2024

Dear Chair Donovan, Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, and Representative Craven:

I appreciate this opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 7969, the Residents Rights Camera Bill.

I urge you to support H7969 and thereby offer long-term care residents and their representatives the choice to utilize electronic monitoring in their living space. As an occupational therapist, I recognize the possible limitations that accompany many diagnoses of elderly residents. Many of these include limited cognition, not limited to impairments in expressive language and memory. Residents with dementia and communication difficulties are especially vulnerable in care facilities, as they are frequently not able to advocate effectively for themselves, and are ignored, dismissed and misunderstood.

The Residents Rights Camera Bill will provide the option to install a monitoring device in their room, assuring the resident is receiving proper and immediate care and offer visual information when a resident is found with an unexplained injury.

Ideally, all other factors (workforce development and pay, DOH regulation enforcement, facility administrator oversight) would align so that no residents or their loved ones felt the need for independent electronic monitoring. But in reality, many residents and their loved ones are rightfully scared of abuse and neglect in long term care facilities, and are denied

the right to monitor their care and condition independently. Furthermore, video communication can aid with improvements in quality of life, while staying connected with loved ones separated by distances.

Thank you for the attention to this important bill, and ensuring that the vulnerable residents living in these communities receive the protection that they so justly deserve.

Respectfully submitted,

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