

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL #HB1476

### Independent Oversight and Review Board for Health Care of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities-Establishment

**Date:** 03/02/2020

**From:** Monica DeLa Trinidad

**To:** Chairman Luke Clippinger, Madame Chair Vanessa Atterbeary and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

**Re:** SUPPORT FOR BILL#HB1476

TO: Chairman Clippinger and Honorable Members of The House Judiciary Committee

On January 28th, 2020 I unexpectedly stood in front of an audience as the Lord ordered me to quickly preach about the power of prayer. To remind every person who attended that night's event that there is nothing impossible for him and he is behind this movement. For the past 2 years, I've volunteered at a correctional facility, where I've learned that the paradigms of incarcerated people are not right. Despite of the mistakes they've made, there is nothing in this world that we do that God doesn't forgive if we repent. I also learned that the way the inmates are being treated by some of the people who work there is not human like, is not right, is not love!!!

Inmates are inside a prison to be taught, and restored for a better life, they are not sentenced to pain and suffering that causes more disabilities for them that directly impacts their family, their communities, their state. Making them unable to have a dignified life once released and just causing more disabilities needs in this country. Unfortunately, pain and suffering happens more than we think when they are being neglected to the proper healthcare. Elderly people are not being taken care of, when their diapers are dirty, the inmates are the ones who show love and change them, the inmates are the ones who move them when they are paralyzed in a bed, the inmates are the ones who help them with the wheelchairs and take them out for a fresh breath of air. Never the nurses or the staff! And the absence of Doctors is strong! But unfortunately, it doesn't stop there, it gets worse! Those who are sick are being ignored, despite the submission of documents that proof their illnesses. They get stabbed, and no shots are provided to prevent further sickness. Bones are broken and out of the skin, and they are left there with no medical check, and all they get for the pain is Tylenol.

Kidneys are failing, and they are not receiving the proper dialysis. Cancer patients will receive chemo here and then, when they feel like giving it to them, but the worse is lies are being told, false documents are being signed saying they received treatment. I've heard tons of testimonies from inmates all over the prisons that just broke my heart. A father desperate because despite of him complaining, his son with a broken leg hasn't received treatment and his leg is doubled the size. If the family or inmates complain, the inmates are being made fun of and threaten by the officers to be locked up, and they will lock them up in a max security cell and revoke all privileges they have like going outside, communicating with their family, etc. They neglect mental health, and the inmates end up committing suicide. When called for help, officers will take an hour to show up, ambulance 2 hours and infirmary won't even show up. Leaving the body hanging for the rest of the inmates to see. Causing more mental damage to others and there not being treated either. That night at the Healthcare behind walls event, the Lord told me

that the bill needed to be submitted and include the violation of Article 25 of the Declaration of human rights: Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care.

This can't be! This is not human, THIS IS NOT GOD, THIS IS PURE EVIL!!!!

THIS MUST BE CHANGED!!!! WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS AND YOUR SUPPORT!!!! This team is working hard to bring JUSTICE TO THE INCARCERATED. Remember, we never know if there will be a day that a friend, family member or even us could be inside and go through this nightmare! It just takes one mistake or a wrong judgment that many times it has happened!

I hope the state will hear the truth of what is really happening and will have the heart to make a change.

Respectfully,

Monica De La Trinidad