

SB1292- SUPPORT
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SB0970 Written Support
Fire Protection and Prevention-Sprinkler Systems and Smoke Alarms- Requirements
(Melanie Diaz Sprinklers Save Lives Act)

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
March 15th, 2023

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

Melanie was one of my best friends and sister. She was going to be my sister-in-law. The one who is supposed to be there when I have my first engagement, child, and house. We planned on seeing each other that Saturday morning (02/18/2023). Melanie was a person who organized, whenever we set up a time to hang out, she would call and text me days before to confirm. I woke up at 7 AM and looked out my window. I felt a little uneasy and went back to sleep. I woke up again at 9:00 AM and started to get dressed. I made breakfast and a little after 10 AM I called her, it went straight to voicemail. I called again for the second time and still no answer. I texted her and never received a text or call. I waited.

Not until hours later, my mother received a call about the news. I rushed to her apartment just to see at Ella and Samatha(her dogs) also passed away. They were the only ones that passed away. What imagine our Saturday would be like:

I wake up and get dressed. I put my dog's harness on and call Melanie. She answers and says she's ready for me to come over.

I drive over to her place and I go up to her apartment where we talk and get the dogs ready together and head over to Starbucks. I finally get to show Melanie my new matcha drink combo and get the dog's puppuccino.

We go to the dog park and watch the dogs run like crazy while we talk and record videos.

We go back to her place and make our plans like we talked about and wait for my sister to come by and visit Melanie as well.

But it didn't happen. It was supposed to.

One sprinkler. Only one would've stopped the fire and smoke from spreading.

Melanie did EVERYTHING RIGHT. she heard the alarm go off. she got the dogs ready and took the nearest exit staircase as instructed in her apartments. She deserved to live.

It is easy to send condolences for a person you did not know and move on but imagine if this was your sister. Imagine if it was your wife, mother, brother, son, or daughter. You would fight and keep on fighting until there is some justice so this does not happen to someone else. No, this will not bring Melanie, Ella, or Samantha back but there needs to be some justice for Melanie. She would've fight hard if the roles were reversed.

I love you so much melanie and I wish I could do the impossible to bring you back on to this earth for a little longer. I want one last hug and conversation. I want to tell you that I love you with all my heart and I will keep on going for you until we meet again. I want to go back in time

to relive some memories one last time. I never expected YOU to leave us so soon. You deserved to live un til 100 years. I will miss seeing you throw the ball for sammy and ella, you texting me to grab you some stuff from Petco for the dogs, going to Ulta, getting starbucks, our little dates are what I'm going to miss the most. You will forever and always be my bestfriend/sister. You deservered so MUCH MORE.

I would not wish this pain on anyone else so I urge a favorable report on SB0970.