

SB 534 – FAV
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Mr. Chairman and committee first thank you for your service. My name is Seth Miller.

I come before you favorable with amendments. Telehealth should not apply to skilled nursing. But should apply to organizations like Cornerstone Montgomery.

The day after Christmas of 2018 I was in a horrific accident. I went from paralegal to patient. From khakis and collared shirts to a Hospital gown. From eating lunch in the Annapolis mall, food court, or better to having someone feed me.

One ICU doctor acted like I was not there when he told a nurse I would die. My family was told I would not walk. My mother knew I took a few steps in therapy. I did not know Mom was visiting when I asked my physical therapist to let me walk back to my room with assistance. Mom broke into tears.

I was inpatient in five places. Quality varied. The Potomac Valley Nursing and Wellness doctor would not talk to me on the on the phone twice, but claimed to have seen me five times. I doubt that. I went to the ER when two nurses gave me conflicting information. The ER doctor said if two nurses gave me conflicting information, they should let me talk to the doctor. I asked that ER doctor to put that in his notes. He agreed. I do not know if he did.

Later, there was an issue with medication. A nurse told me the Potomac Valley doctor said she was not required to see me every day as in a hospital, but every 30 days. I brought it up when I saw the doctor. The doctor denied telling the nurse that.

At Potomac Valley, I saw my roommate battered by a third roommate. I have the police report. I made staff call.

HCRManorCare of Potomac on Tennis Lane was cited when a nurse violated Standards of Care and chose not to wash my surgical wound which became infected multiple times.

While not military, I understand Command Presence. I told a doctor the next time a friend is in skilled nursing where she did not have privileges, and they do not know her go and visit her in her capacity as a friend after 6 PM. Tell me if you liked what you see.

These things happen to many patients, I am competent to report.

I am trying to put my life together with the help of the medical, counseling, and vocational teams at Cornerstone Montgomery. I live in private residence and have problems due to the side effects of IV antibiotics. Side effects I do not want to discuss. Some days are great. Some days not so much. I do not know which will be which.

I need Cornerstone's help from a medical doctor, social workers, and job coaches. I am trying to get a job as an intake paralegal or government paralegal where an employer can accommodate my disability.

I want to end on a good note. There are many great health care workers. I do not remember a thing from the accident. My memory of the trauma surgeon scurrying out of my ICU room holding back tears of joy because she never had a patient summon her to his ICU room to thank her is a very special memory to me.

I've been through a lot. Please amend as requested.

And, thank you.