

HB 823

Alyssa Kenny

Position: SUPPORT

My nephew lived in MD and was turned away time and time again for services. He was deemed too ill to benefit but offered nothing else. He was homeless for a time getting no care at all for very a year. He was discriminated against because of how he looked. He was a large, tall man with a scowl on his face and was told he seemed threatening. What he was, was hungry, very ill and asking for help. He did not receive any continuing services. Imagine one of your loved ones suffering with an illness and being turned away and forced to go it alone to manage that illness- be it severe mental illness, diabetes cancer or some other debilitating disease. It doesn't make sense to not treat any of these diseases. Help stop this stigma of mental illness being not worthy of treatment. If there had been some treatment perhaps my nephew would have survived. He did not.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Kenny