

Estates and Trusts - Interpretation of Wills - Evidence of Intent (Granny's Law)

HB0868

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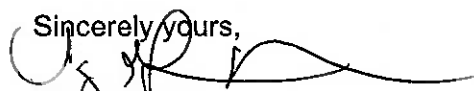
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It is my esteemed pleasure to write a letter and share my testimony in support of HB0868 Granny's Law. In 2008 to 2009 I was living with agonizing pain. I would regularly see my primary care physician seeking answers and relief: I was sent to take a stress test. The results were normal. I continued to beg the doctor that the intensity of the pain was worsening. After months of no answers or diagnosis, the doctor gave me a bag of Cymbalta and suggested I take 30 mg and increase it to 60 mg if needed. He also wrote in his notes [that I later obtained] that I was psychosomatic. My pain was dismissed; I was listened to but not heard. I then elected to stop seeing him or any doctor for over a month, until I couldn't live a normal life. I found a new primary care in May and a week later I was in the Hematology Building at Baltimore Washington Medical Center then shortly thereafter I was diagnosed with stage 3B Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Here I am 16 years later and I am in the fight to advocate for my parents who are experiencing cognitive decline. Monthly I am trying to coordinate their medical care and assemble resources and I often struggle to get a return phone call from physicians.

It is my understanding that the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities seeks to do the following, and more - Address social determinants of health, reduce health disparities and advance health equity by leveraging the resources of the Maryland Department of Health; Foster robust community public/private partnerships to advance health equity advocacy and education.

I believe that Jennifer Johnson's grandmother's estate (funds) were bequeathed to support these specific outcomes that directly impact minority health and health disparities. According to a NIH article, "Maryland has led the nation in policy solutions to identify and address health disparities." I ask for the Judiciary Committee's full favorable support for HB0868 Estates and Trusts - Interpretation of Wills - Evidence of Intent (Granny's Law).

Sincerely yours,



Toye Nelson