

SB 707

Linda Silver

Wicomico County

Position: FAVORABLE

Since my brother John has been unmedicated, he has been incarcerated, lost his driver's license and all identification methods, ran up huge debt, abandoned his car, and can't access his SS money. He still has his house since I have power of attorney, but he is physically taking it apart, including having open live electrical feeds. If I didn't send food, he wouldn't be able to eat. With the current standards, I have no way to get him back on medication. Please help by passing this bill.

SB 707 strengthens the ability of providers and families to intervene earlier and more effectively to help prevent crises and protect individuals with severe mental illness (SMI) and their communities.

This bill ensures "danger" covers situations where a person with a severe mental illness (SMI) faces a substantial risk of:

- Causing bodily harm to themselves or others.
- Being unable to provide for basic needs including food, clothing, shelter, medical care, self-protection, or safety to a degree that risks serious harm, illness, or death.

SB 707 is a practical, compassionate step that will save lives, reduce suffering, incarceration and homelessness and strengthen public safety.

Please give a favorable report to SB707 as amended in the Senate, without changes.

Thank you,

Linda Silver