



HELP in the HOME

PO Box 10405 Rockville, MD 20849 info@helpinthehomellc.com
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SB 707

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Position: FAVORABLE

In my 25 year career, I have personally known 4 people violently attacked by the person they cared for who had serious mental illness. Three of these attacks resulted in death. In every situation they had tried multiple times to have their loved one hospitalized and could not because they did not meet the danger standard.

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.



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