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On Behalf Of: Glenda Kiesz
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB134

January 21, 2025

Testimony for the SB134 - Grants the right of a resident's family to install and monitor a camera in the room of their loved one residing in Memory Care and other Residential Care Facilities (RCFs).

Submitted by: Glenda Kiesz, daughter of Violet Chalus who is currently residing in a Memory Care Facility in Springfield, Oregon.

I am writing this in support of SB134. My mother suffered a major stroke in February 2022 which affected her cognitive ability and speech. She is unable to communicate in words, which makes it very challenging to understand her needs. My brother lives in Eugene, Oregon and is able to visit her on a regular basis, however, I live in Sacramento, California and I am only able to visit her every few months.

For families that do not live near their loved one who is residing in a Memory Care facility it is difficult to check on their loved one.

We experienced a situation where I arrived to see my mother one morning and she was laying down in bed and in significant pain. When I contacted the care staff they were not able to provide any information on what had happened. As best as I could understand from my mother's gestures, she may have had some type of fall but we could not be sure exactly what happened. She was transported to the hospital where she was diagnosed with a fracture in her leg. We were not able to understand how that injury occurred and if we had a camera in the room we would have been able to look back and see what her activity had been earlier in the day and also effectively communicate with the care staff about the situation.

Families should have the legal right and the ability to choose to have a camera installed in their loved one's room. This should not be left to individual facility management policy to

determine the family's
right to install a camera. By passing this legislative bill it will provide families with this
important right
but also guidelines on its appropriate use for the benefit of the resident.