

March 27, 2021

RE: In Support of SB 303

Amy Eskov
21466 W 120th St.
Olathe, Johnson County, KS
Kansas Senate District 9

Dear Chairman Hilderbrand and Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Members,

I currently work as a PRN speech-language pathologist in a nursing home in the state of Kansas.

This past year I have personally witnessed the physical, mental, and emotional deterioration of many of the residents I have worked with due to the effects of social isolation from the Covid-19 restrictions.

I have wiped tears of sadness and frustration from a resident's face and hugged her as she tells me she desperately wants "to get out of this prison." I have held the hands of residents at mealtimes knowing I am a surrogate for their loved one. I have listened to residents speak about their loved ones, desperately wondering if they will see them again.

Visits from family and friends are central to the care of residents to combat depression, loneliness, and anxiety. The Covid-19 restrictions this past year have been devastating to the psychological well-being of the residents, particularly those with dementia.

I urge you to vote in favor of SB 303 and uphold the personal liberties of nursing home residents.

Sincerely,
Amy Eskov