Brett Richardson

Regarding HB 2536

January 27th 2026

Madam Chair Susan Humphries and Members of the House Judiciary Committee. My name is Brett Richardson, and I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to address my support of HB 2536, and to present in writing my testimony.

My mother was originally diagnosed with Alzheimer's around 2016. At the time she and my dad lived in Kansas City, Missouri. I was living in Manhattan, Kansas, and I am currently still living in Manhattan, but it was decided between my dad, my sister, and myself, to move them from Kansas City to Manhattan. My sister lived in Georgia at the time and was also raising a family, so she didn't have the room to house our parents, and neither one of us wanted them to live in an apartment on their own. So, I moved out of my apartment and moved into a Townhome that was a single floor, so my parents didn't have climb up stairs.

Over the next few months my mom's attitude changed, and she started getting angry about a lot of things. I could handle for the most part the asking the same questions repeatedly, but the anger issues became a hardship. I was working full-time at Fort Riley as a DoD Civilian, and I currently am still in my position, but my dad at the time was with my mom the entire day. After coming home, I would immediately run into my mom getting mad at my dad and myself for taking her from her home in Kansas City and wanting to go back. On these occasions my mom would get very angry and violent talking about killing herself and not having any resources and not knowing what to do, I called the Riley County Police. They would come out and get her settled down. By the third time of calling the Riley County Police, they informed me that I needed to call the Crisis Center the next time she had an episode. That day came, when my mom pulled a knife and threatened my dad, I immediately called the crisis center, and for the next hour it was determined that the Riley County Police would need to come back out. I spoke with the officer in charge and informed him that they had two choices, either to get my mom out of the house to a hospital, or I would continue to call for assistance. This was also the other part that I didn't know at the time. Even though my dad and I had medical power of attorney, we were told that we couldn't admit her to a hospital, if she refused help. Luckily the officer in charge informed me that they would resolve the issue. EMS was called and somehow between EMS and the Riley County Police, they were able to get my mom to agree to go to the hospital for help.

After getting her into a hospital, it was determined that she also besides Alzheimer's she also had Dementia, something that we didn't know about because she had never been

diagnosed prior to being admitted to the hospital. My mom was eventually admitted to Wellsprings of Westmoreland where she was taken care of. She succumbed to both diseases in February of 2020.

In closing, I understand that I wasn't a court appointed guardian and assigned to someone with dementia or cognitive decline, but I did take care of my mom with dementia and cognitive decline, and if I had some kind of training during the time that I helped take care of my mom, I could have had the tools to know who to reach out to, and how to better control the situation.

Thank you again Madam Chair Susan Humphries and Members of the House Judiciary Committee for reading my testimony. I hope that it helps in making a decision that would benefit the court appointed guardian on the many challenges that they may face and hopefully gives them the resources that they will need to help someone who can't physically and mentally take care of themselves.