TO: Chairman Hilderbrand and Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Members

My sister, for whom I am a guardian, lives in a Nursing Facility Mental Health (NFMH) in Eskridge, Kansas. During the past year, I have been unable to access care for my sister regarding regular dental care, needed dental surgery, optometry, cataract surgery, podiatry, physical therapy, or any other type of care. My sister has had no services during the past year of any kind. I have not been able to perform the duties of a guardian or even check in on her as my beloved sister. No hugs. No contact. No touch. No pats on the back. No time together during an entire year! THIS IS CRIMINAL. What quality of life does she have? What does she have to look forward to with no family contact?

During the past year, my sister has been literally locked in her facility. For approximately three of those twelve months, she was forced to eat her meals IN HER ROOM ON HER BED. She was allowed out of her room only twice a week for showers. During that time, she was not allowed to leave her room to walk or exercise. How healthy can that be?!? No activities. No human contact. No walks. No sunshine. No fresh air. This sounds like a concentration camp— not a care facility! WHAT has this world come to?!?

I have delivered birthday and Christmas gifts to the door of her facility, but have not been allowed access to my sister's facility in a year. I drive two hours each way and am still not allowed any conversation or access.

My sister is allowed to take a walk twice a week IF the weather is decent while smokers are escorted out of the building five times a day to support their nasty habit. How in the name of Jesus does this make sense? Depriving an individual of fresh air, sunshine and a daily walk is a crime against humanity and a recipe for covid! These are the EXACT things needed to fight off covid naturally—fresh air, sunshine, and exercise! It makes NO SENSE!

I am writing to add my testimony in support of SB 303. As a guardian and as a sister, what is happening is absolutely negligent and CRIMINAL.

Linda Sue (Turnbull) Becker Eskridge, KS 66423 Senate District 20