

HB 2230 – Public Guardianship for Veterans at High Risk

Presented to

House Committee on Veterans Services and Emergency Preparedness

February 2nd, 2021

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- Guardian of last resort
 - No other viable option is available
 - Extreme safety risk to a cognitively impaired individual
- Person centered guardianship and advocacy
 - All guardianship plans are centered around the values, goals and desires of the protected person
 - Personal advocacy
 - Rapport building and trust

Serving Veterans

- OPGC currently serves 10 clients that are veterans
 - 11% of overall caseload
 - Primary cause of extreme safety risk
 - 80% self-neglect
 - 20% abuse by others
 - Cognitive impairment
 - 60% suffer from major neurocognitive disorder
 - 2/3 of those have behavioral disturbances
 - 40% suffer from severe and persistent mental illness
 - Schizoaffective disorder

HB 2230 Implementation Plan

- 3 regionally based deputy public guardians
 - Specialize exclusively on guardianship services and outreach to veterans and the groups that serve them
- Increases ability to serve veterans
 - Focused outreach and screening will ensure all high-risk veterans are referred to the program
 - Specialists will be able to deliver higher quality services within the VA and related systems for veteran clients

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