

Submitter: Mara Delgados

On Behalf Of: 2927

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2927

Hello, my name is Mara Delgado. I'm 47 years old born in Managua, Nicaragua, in Central America. I came to USA when I was 13 years old, just a teenager. I got diagnosed with sickle cell disease at age 14, in Los Angeles, California. During that 1st crisis, doctors told me I might not make it to my 30'S, because of complications of sickle cell. That was a difficult time for me, as you can imagine. My life changed forever.

It's been a challenge because I'm a Latina and sometimes I don't believe I have sickle cell and I don't have severe pain or sometimes the medical staff don't believe that you have so much pain. There being moments where I have to ask a nurse even know what sickle cell disease is and they're not even know they don't know how to spell it or sometimes they say that they know a little bit about.