

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice Chair Linthicum and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB 228 and SB 134.

My grandmother lived in a memory care facility in Oregon. I remember seeing caregivers sitting her up in bed, changing her clothes, tucking her covers in—seeing her vulnerability when she lost her ability to communicate.

For my grandmother, and thousands of others with memory loss, their families are their only advocates. At her facility, two people started a family council who had mothers living there. The council provided critical resources, education, and support for families with loved ones in the facility. It also provided a space to advocate on behalf of loved ones—a safe place independent from the facility to listen to and follow up on concerns and questions from family members. It gave a voice to our grandparents, wives, husbands, mothers, and fathers who otherwise wouldn't have one. I am asking for your support of Senate Bill 228 Independent Family Council Act of 2025, please use your voice to help families whose loved ones cannot speak for themselves.

Thank you,
Lily Bussel