

May 29, 2006

The Honorable John E. Rooney
Assemblyman District 39
436 Old Hook Road
Emerson, NJ 07630

REF: "Starvation and Dehydration of Persons with Disabilities Act."
January 30, 2006, No 2117

Dear Mr. Rooney:

It is with great interest that my sister, Carolyn Ausley, and I learned of your sponsorship of the referenced legislative act. Although we are no longer NJ residents, at the time of her death, our sister Joyce was.

Although Joyce was diagnosed with terminal cancer she died suspiciously on October 29, 2005. At the conclusion of a brief investigation, the medical examiner ruled she died of natural causes. However, the ME refuses to release specimens taken from Joyce's body for further evaluation by our private Forensic Pathologist, to rule out starvation and/or dehydration. For the last 3-4 months of her life, Joyce's caretakers acknowledged they gave Joyce no food and very little liquid nourishment. Joyce's physical appearance was like that of someone from a concentration camp; additionally, she was delirious and not oriented to time, place, or person.

Carolyn and I would like to offer any help we can in your efforts to have this act passed, even though Carolyn [REDACTED] and I live [REDACTED]. What happened to our sister Joyce should not happen to anyone.

We look forward to hearing back from you.

Respectfully,

William H. Strouse
William H. Strouse
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

/s/
Carolyn Ausley
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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ASSEMBLY, No. 2117
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2006

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman JOHN E. ROONEY
District 39 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

"Starvation and Dehydration of Persons with Disabilities Prevention Act."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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