

Susan Becker  
P.O. 29  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

My life was changed in 10 minutes by a Specialist who told me that I needed a "simple procedure" to remove a polyp that was in my left sinus, which was probably the cause of my left ear feeling plugged and my dizziness. After I woke up from surgery I was totally blind in my left eye and a nerve was cut, where it will never move normal again. There is no surgery that can fix an optical nerve that was damaged. I will have to live the rest of my life this way.

The doctor said he was sorry and was going to send me back to work four days later. I was still bleeding from my left eye, it was bright red from all the blood seeping out, I had a headache all the time because my right eye was trying to do all the work, and I could not drive for two months because the eye doctor said it would take approximately that long for my depth perception to adjust. It was a living nightmare for the first few months to just cope with all the life changes and to have my small grandchildren who live out of State freak out trying to understand what happened to grandma. I went from an active, independent person to someone that had to depend on my husband, family, and friends to help me with things that I did every day. I have had to learn how to do almost everything differently in my life, even simple things like putting on makeup, because you don't realize how much depth perception plays a part of your life. Without my family, friends, and faith in God, I would not have been able to cope with all the changes and emotions that I had to go through. The doctor's life did not change, but mine sure did!

**Oppose SB 1116** - The bills you are trying to change to help the medical community is another slap in the face to innocent victims like me that took the advice - or as your bill SB 1116 states "professional judgment" - of a specialist, thinking that they were doing the best for the patient. The doctor stated to my husband after the surgery that "if he knew it was so close to the eye, he would have treated me differently." If the specialist would have taken more time to look over my case, he would have seen that it was not a simple procedure but that I had some other issues going on, and that it would have been a complicated surgery, if done right. At that point he could have explained to me my options and I could have made a decision on all the facts.

By signing these bills into law you are taking away the right of victims to keep the medical world honest and accountable. Plus a judge, not a jury, will make this determination as a matter of law. Where are the checks and balances? The laws are hard enough already to even be able to file a medical malpractice suit. My husband and I own a small business and we have to pay for liability insurance. If we do something wrong we have to pay for our mistake and make it right! Will we get the same privilege?

**Oppose SB 1118** - When families are going through these crises, and you are trying to decrease the time-frame for families to file a lawsuit - shame on you. It takes time to get through the grieving process and to be able to start thinking straight before you can take on the emotional stress of a lawsuit. I had a hard enough time with my two year time-frame and all the emotional stress it took out of me and my husband.