

Corey Woodby

From: Stephen Marmaras <smarmaras@ghlf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 6:46 PM
To: The Office of Senator Hune; The Office of Senator O'Brien; The Office of Senator Marleau; The Office of Senator Jones; The Office of Senator Stamas; The Office of Senator Robertson; The Office of Senator Hertel; The Office of Senator Meekhof; Senate Majority Committee Clerks
Subject: GHLF Opposes Substitute for HB 4812

Dear Senators:

If you were on a medication and it was switched to a similar, but not identical, medication by a pharmacist, would you want your doctor to know? Would you want to know?
If the answer is yes then:

Please oppose Senator Shirkey's substitute bill;
Please oppose HB 4812 if the Shirkey substitute is adopted;
Please support HB 4812 as it passed the Michigan House of Representatives.

Our advocacy community represents patients and caregivers all across the country, including over 2,000 from Michigan. One of these advocates is a pregnant mother named Rachelle from Chesterfield, MI. Rachelle was first diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis at the age of 19. She has taken biologics for years to manage her disease. She has finally found a combination of therapies that works for her. Rachelle has searched with her physician for two years to set up a treatment regimen which will allow her pregnancy to go unharmed.

If Senator Shirkey's substitute bill is passed and the communication and notification language are removed from HB 4812 as it appears in the version that passed the House, Rachelle's medication may be switched without her physician or her knowing. This could put Rachelle and her unborn child's health at risk. Rachelle and patients all across Michigan like her deserve to have complete transparency and want their physicians to know exactly what medication was dispensed.

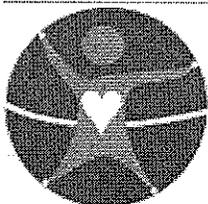
Rachelle and other patient advocates will be in person tomorrow at the Capitol testifying in opposition to Senator Shirkey's substitute bill.

Please reject Senator Shirkey's substitute bill and ensure Physicians have full access to biologics dispensing information.

Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Stephen



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Improving the lives of people with chronic disease through better access to care, education, support, advocacy and patient-centered research.