

Public Health Committee, H.B 6200

Feb 3, 2009
Michelle Babyak
51 New Lebbon Rd.
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Dear Chris Lyddy,
Christopher.Lydddy@cga.ct.gov

Our 15 year old son's childhood, teenage years and possibly his future dreams have been taken away by Lyme disease. He has been treated 3 times in the last 7 years and is now suffering from neurological Lyme. A month of his freshman year of High School was spent in a mental hospital where doctors told me he was depressed and possibly has a personality disorder. In this hospital he was medicated and suffered from many side effects of these personality altering drugs while the insurance company paid for him to continue to get worse being treated for something he didn't have. I decided to take him to an out of network Lyme literate doctor that decided to treat him based on a clinical diagnosis. Based on his symptoms he is continuing treatment and is showing improvements both physically and mentally. We have had to change doctors to get IV treatment covered under our insurance but then that doctor was not comfortable continuing his treatment. He is now back on oral antibiotics and is still having a lot of cognitive problems that are impeding his education along with many physical symptoms. He has always been passionate about becoming a marine biologist and I am afraid that since he is loosing valuable time and his grades are suffering because of his illness that this will hurt his collage aspirations.

It is so important for our health professionals to understand, diagnose and treat Lyme disease the first time. We have spent thousands of dollars and 7 years trying to find doctors that will treat our son. We have good insurance but that is not enough when it comes to Lyme disease. Thank God that we also have good credit cards too because that is how we are paying for his treatment. I will do what ever it takes to help my child get well, unfortunately that includes accumulating debt and searching for a doctor that will actually treat him for what he has and not be manipulated by the insurance companies.

Thank you for supporting families like ours here in Newtown. We know so many people suffering for this horrible disease. We need to find a way to diagnose, treat and protect our neighbors. Thank you for doing all you can to help this important fight.

Sincerely,
Michelle Babyak
Newtown, CT