

Dear Honorable House Committee Members:

What can we do to clearly explain and persuade you to vote on this timely bill now? As I explained, Amber's Bill favors the victim and the abuser, who gets the help they need to monitor their weak impulses. They also get to live a free life while being monitored. No one opposed Amber's Bill either time.

We were frankly shocked Amber's Bill didn't pass the first time, but instead we worked diligently to meet much higher standards. While we were testifying this past week, there seemed to be a lot of favorability. We understand legislators hear so many bills and we sympathize with you, but this is the one we ask you pay special attention and vote favorably. You must see the Amber light, slow down and put on the brakes. Before you vote unfavorable. Safety matters! Domestic violence is something your constituents don't want overlooked anymore!

"Doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results, is insanity," Einstein said. People are dying! Future generations are gone! This bill is a matter of life and death!

Please close the loophole allowing judges the sole discretion to enforce the monitor. Legislators honestly believe judges are implementing these monitors. They are not. For instance we called Howard County. Not one was administered for domestic violence. That is the tip of the iceberg. A domestic violence victim should have the ability to request a GPS device, too. However, you have to realize the victim is traumatized. They are usually not equipped to ask for a monitor, especially if they don't know it is an option. I can tell you personally sitting with my daughter with four finger tips gone. Writing alone can be a problem. Trying to act not upset in front of my daughter was my challenge.

A judge testified in front of me before the Senate on Wednesday, March 1, 2017. The judge said, "In Baltimore and Prince George's Counties, judges were not implementing what is available." If they have a woman in front of them with two bloody mitts, bruised, battered, who required hospitalization and two hand reconstruction surgeries required and they didn't implement it, what will it take? The loss of one limb, two limbs? We need a monitor!

At this point in time just relying on the judges, is not working! Technology works for the criminals. It is time we use the technology. We can have an app on a smart phone and use Track Group to track their whereabouts. Just think, if police officers knew the location of the abusers. Some high-speed chases putting the public in danger would be cut in half.

I was mortified when my husband told me three were children killed in domestic violence. Not even touching how many children are orphaned, raised by relatives, or split up and put in foster care. Also, it cost the taxpayers millions.

Amber's Bill brought me back to relive those dark painful memories to make a difference. I want to help save lives. That is all. Please vote favorably on Amber's Bill. If you choose to vote unfavorably, please at least explain why. Thank you for your time and efforts.

Appreciatively,

Angela Zarcone

Amber Shinault's Mother