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From: Melissa Golden [goldencomm@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2008 7:49 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Assisted living: Vote NO to no Dr. Choice

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INDEPENDENT REGULATOR

I am writing to urge you to **vote not to allow Assisted Living facilities to dictate what Dr. residents must use**, We have freedom of choice in this country and should be allowed to choose what medical care we would like.

I have had first hand experience with my mother, an Alzheimer's patient. When she was not being able to speak for herself, the physician at the facility at Country Meadows in York issued an order for my mother without examining her and she never contacted me as medical power of attorney Everything was between the facility and the Dr. – "in cahoots" as they say We filed a complaint with the medical licensing board – the doctor resigned her license.

Mom is now in a nursing home and made sure to have an INDEPENDENT physician who listens to *our* wishes. As Medical power of attorney, we follow my mother's directives.

Of course, the facilities want to use their physician – it is easier and they can control the drugs to sedate the residents and make their jobs easier.

I would be more than willing to testify on this issue if need be.

Respectfully,
Melissa Golden 717-779-4882
Devoted daughter of Jerre Smith