

2/24/2016

Sen. Ron Johnson
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman,

My wife Trickett Wendler, passed March 18, 2015 after a 2 year battle with ALS. When she was first diagnosed, we scoured the country to find the best doctors, medicine, treatments, etc and were sadly disappointed to find the lack of measurable progress made for this horrific disease. In fact, the only "treatment" drug prescribed for my wife was the exact same drug that was prescribed to her father over 20 years ago...literally no progress. Without a known cause or cure, we were resigned to accept the unforgiving certainty of a terminal diagnosis.

I will tell you that once we were out of options, our desire to transform the possibilities became the singular focus of our life. I have three small children with a hereditary gene that predisposes them to this intolerant disease. That is why it is infinitely important to provide patients with alternatives where none exist. The Right to Try provides something that doctors, drug manufacturers, legislators, etc, cannot provide: hope. Sadly, my wife did not have this option, but I write to you today to implore to you the importance of providing hope where none exists. I pray every day that progress is made to find a cure and that my children are not given the same drug that their mother and grandfather were given, but if none is made I pray that my children will have the Right to Try.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Tim Wendler', with a stylized 'T' and 'W'.

Tim Wendler

CC: Sen. Tom Carper