Mom Fights To Pass Law, Get Son Medical Treatment

Boy Left In Hot Car Results In Brain Damage

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OKLAHOMA CITY -- A family is fighting to protect children after their son was left in a hot day care van for nine hours in 2007. Demarion Pittman was left with brain damage after the incident.

Demarion's medical bills topped more than \$1 million, prompting his family to take their fight to lawmakers who then passed a law requiring day care operators to carry liability insurance.

The family hopes that what happened to Demarion will never happen to another child.

"That day in the car he didn't give up," said Demarion's mother, Edna Pittman. "He had to fight. He had to."

Today, Demarion can walk with his mother's help, but back in 2007 doctors believed he would not live, let alone ever walk again.

After Demarion was left inside a day care center van during the heat of the day, his body temperature shot up to 117 degrees. He was in a coma for two months.

His ordeal left him with serious brain damage. He is legally blind and suffers from seizures, but he is doing much better than doctors ever predicted.

"If he can do that in that kind of condition, then as his mother why can't I fight?" said Pittman. "Why can't I push forward every day to get him the best life that I could possibly give him."

After helping push through a law for day care reform, Pittman is now pushing to get her son to China, where he can get stem cell treatments that are not offered in the U.S.

She has raised more than half of the \$55,000 the treatment costs. Pittman says some patients like Demarion have regained sight and are able to walk, move and communicate better after the treatment.

"If my child could give me a hug that would be the greatest thing in the world," said Pittman. "If he could say 'Mommy' I would be happy with that."

Pittman says doctors told her this treatment would not be available in the states for nearly a decade. She says that's too long and her son could benefit from the treatment while he's still young.

If you would like to help Demarion get that special treatment you can donate at this link <u>Demarion Goes To China Blog Spot</u>.

http://www.koco.com/health/30549151/detail.html#ixzz1nb7uwiZd