2017 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

For:

Lisa Subeck (608) 266-7521

Drafter:

swalkenh

Required

By:

Zach

Secondary Drafters:

Jacketed

Date:

1/20/2017

May Contact:

Same as LRB:

-0146

Submit via email:

YES

Requester's email: Carbon copy (CC) to: Rep.Subeck@legis.wisconsin.gov

tamara.dodge@legis.wisconsin.gov

Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Establishing civil cause of action for financial exploitation

Instructions:

See attached

Drafting History:

Reviewed Vers. Drafted Submitted idyer /1 swalkenh mbarman mbarman

State 1/20/2017 1/23/2017 1/23/2017 1/23/2017 S&L

FE Sent For:

<END>

Walkenhorst Barber, Sarah

From:

Madden, Zachary

Sent:

Friday, January 20, 2017 4:33 PM

To:

Walkenhorst Barber, Sarah

Subject:

Bill Draft

Sarah,

Can we get an Assembly version of LRB-0146 (relating to: civil cause of action for financial exploitation)drafted and jacketed.

Thanks, Zach

Zachary Madden Legislative Aide, Representative Lisa Subeck 78th Assembly District State Capitol, Room 418 North P.O. Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708 (608) 266-7521



State of Misconsin 2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0146/1 SWB:jld

2017 BILL

Companion No charges

 $\overline{ ext{AN ACT}}$ to create 895.033 of the statutes; $ext{relating to:}$ civil cause of action for

2 financial exploitation.

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Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill creates a civil cause of action for financial exploitation of a vulnerable person. The bill defines the term "vulnerable person" to include persons who are elderly, financially incapable, incapacitated, or those with a disability who are susceptible to force, threat, duress, coercion, persuasion, or physical or emotional injury because of a physical or mental impairment. Under the bill, a court must award a person who brings a successful action enhanced damages, attorney fees, and reasonable fees for any necessary services of a conservator or guardian ad litem.

For further information see the **state** and **local** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- **Section 1.** 895.033 of the statutes is created to read:
- 4 895.033 Financial exploitation of a vulnerable individual. (1) In this
- 5 section:

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(a) "Elderly person" means a person 65 years of age or older.

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(b) "Financially incapable person" means a person who is unable to manage
financial resources of the person effectively for reasons including mental illness,
intellectual disability, physical illness or disability, chronic use of drugs or controlled
substances, chronic intoxication, confinement, detention by a foreign power, or
disappearance.
(c) "Incapacitated" has the meaning given in s. 701.0103 (12).
(d) "Noneconomic damages" has the meaning given in s. 893.55 (4) (a).
(e) "Person with a disability" means a person with a physical or mental

- 1. Is likely to continue without substantial improvement for no fewer than 12 months or to result in death.
- 2. Prevents performance of substantially all of the ordinary duties of occupations in which an individual not having the physical or mental impairment is capable of engaging, having due regard for the training, experience, and circumstances of the person with the physical or mental impairment.
 - (f) "Vulnerable person" means any of the following:

impairment that has all of the following characteristics:

- 17 1. An elderly person.
 - 2. A financially incapable person.
- 3. An incapacitated person.
 - 4. A person with a disability who is susceptible to force, threat, duress, coercion, persuasion, or physical or emotional injury because of the person's physical or mental impairment.
 - (2) Any of the following persons may, on behalf of a vulnerable person who suffers injury or damage by reason of financial exploitation, bring an action under

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1	this section against a person who has caused the financial exploitation or has				
2	permitted another person to engage in financial exploitation:				
3	(a) A vulnerable person.				
4	(b) A guardian or conservator for a vulnerable person.				
5	(c) A personal representative for the estate of a decedent who was a vulnerable				
6	person at the time the cause of action arose.				
7	(d) A trustee for a trust on behalf of the trustor or the spouse of the trustor who				
8	is a vulnerable person.				
9	(3) An action may be brought under this section for financial exploitation of a				
10	vulnerable person if any of the following circumstances exist:				
11	(a) A person wrongfully takes or appropriates money or property of a				
12	vulnerable person, without regard to whether the person taking or appropriating the				
13	money or property has a fiduciary relationship with the vulnerable person.				
14	(b) A vulnerable person requests that another person transfer to the vulnerable				
15	person any money or property that the other person holds or controls and that				
16	belongs to or is held in express trust, constructive trust, or resulting trust for the				
17	vulnerable person, and the other person, without good cause, either continues to hold				
18	the money or property or fails to take reasonable steps to make the money or property				
19	readily available to the vulnerable person when all of the following are true:				
20	1. The other person or someone acting in concert with the other person acquires				
21	ownership or control of the money or property in whole or in part from the vulnerable				
22	person.				
23	2. The other person acts in bad faith, or knew or should have known of the right				

of the vulnerable person to have the money or property transferred as requested or

otherwise made available to the vulnerable person.

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- (4) A person may bring an action under this section against a person for permitting another person to engage in financial exploitation of a vulnerable person if the person knowingly acts or fails to act under circumstances in which a reasonable person should have known of the financial exploitation.
- (5) A transfer of money or property that is made for the purpose of qualifying a vulnerable person for Medical Assistance benefits or for any other state or federal assistance program, or the holding and exercise of control over money or property after such a transfer, does not constitute a wrongful taking or appropriation under sub. (3) (a) or the holding of money or property without good cause under sub. (3) (b).
- **(6)** The court shall award all of the following to a plaintiff who prevails in an action under this section:
- (a) An amount equal to 3 times all economic damages resulting from the financial exploitation, or \$500, whichever amount is greater.
- (b) An amount equal to 3 times all noneconomic damages resulting from the financial exploitation.
 - (c) Reasonable attorney fees incurred by the plaintiff.
- (d) Reasonable fees for the services of any conservator or guardian ad litem incurred by reason of the litigation of a claim brought under this section.

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Barman, Mike

From:

LRB.Legal

To:

Rep.Subeck

Subject:

Draft review: LRB -1740/1

Attachments:

17-1740/1

State of Wisconsin - Legislative Reference Bureau

One East Main Street - Suite 200 - Madison

The attached draft was prepared at your request. Please review it carefully to ensure that it satisfies your intent. If you have any questions concerning the draft or would like to have it redrafted, please contact Sarah Walkenhorst Barber, Legislative Attorney, at (608) 267-3215, at sarah.walkenhorstbarber@legis.wisconsin.gov, or at One East Main Street, Suite 200.

We will jacket this draft for introduction in the Assembly.

(per Sarah Walkenhorst Barber, Legislative Attorney)

If the last paragraph of the analysis states that a fiscal estimate will be prepared, the LRB will submit a request to DOA when the draft is introduced. You may obtain a fiscal estimate on the draft prior to introduction by contacting our program assistants at LRB.Legal@legis.wisconsin.gov or at (608) 266-3561. If you requested a fiscal estimate on an earlier version of this draft and would like to obtain a fiscal estimate on the current version before it is introduced, you will need to request a revised fiscal estimate from our program assistants.

Please call our program assistants at (608) 266-3561 if you have any questions regarding this email.