



MEMBERS:
SENATOR ROCCA,
MAJORITY VICE CHAIR
SENATOR NOFS
SENATOR GREGORY,
MINORITY VICE CHAIR

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE SENATE
FAMILIES, SENIORS, AND
HUMAN SERVICES
COMMITTEE**

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SENATOR JUDY EMMONS, CHAIR

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate Families, Seniors, and Human Services Committee was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2011, at 3:08 p.m. in the Farnum Building, Room 210.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Emmons (C), Rocca, Nofs, Gregory

Absent: None

Senator Emmons announced the order of business:

(Testimony only on all)

- SB 454 Sen. Nofs - Civil procedure; evidence; testimony of a vulnerable adult; allow to be presented by videotape or closed-circuit television.
- SB 455 Sen. Rocca - Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for certain fraud violations; revise.
- SB 459 Sen. Emmons - Crimes; embezzlement; crime of obtaining signature by fraud and penalties for financial exploitation of vulnerable adults; increase under certain circumstances.

(Removed from agenda for the day)

- SB 464 Sen. Schuitmaker - Criminal procedure; other; development of investigative protocols and abuse and neglect interview protocols for vulnerable adults; require by certain local agencies.
- SB 465 Sen. Hildenbrand - Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for crime of financial exploitation of vulnerable adult; revise to reflect increased penalties.
- SB 466 Sen. Schuitmaker - Law enforcement; reports; senior medical alert program; provide for.
- SB 468 Sen. Hansen - Criminal procedure; arrests; complainant's signature requirement to file a criminal complaint in cases alleging vulnerable adult abuse; prohibit magistrate from refusing to accept complaint because signed upon information and belief by individual other than the victim.

Senator Rocca motioned, supported by Senator Gregory to adopt the minutes of June 29, 2011.

Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

Senator Emmons gave opening remarks regarding SB454, SB455, SB459, SB464, SB465, SB466, and SB468 that are also referred to as elder abuse legislation.

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Senator Schuitmaker gave verbal testimony explaining the elder abuse legislation and the Senate Substitutes S-1 to SB454, S-2 to SB455, and S-2 to SB465. Senator Schuitmaker then answered questions from committee members.

Sergeant Chris Hawkins, representing the Michigan State Police, gave verbal testimony in support of the elder abuse legislation. Sgt. Hawkins then answered questions from committee members.

Tom Robertson, representing the Prosecuting Attorney's Association, gave verbal testimony in support of the elder abuse legislation. Mr. Robertson then answered questions from committee members.

Noah Smith, representing the Criminal Defense Attorney's Association of Michigan, gave verbal testimony neutral to the elder abuse legislation. Mr. Smith then answered questions from committee members.

Alan Cropsey and Dave Tanay, representing the Attorney General Bill Schuette, gave verbal testimony in support of elder abuse legislation. Mr. Cropsey and Mr. Tanay then answered questions from committee members.

Sally Steiner, representing the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, gave verbal testimony in support of SB454 and SB459. Ms. Steiner then answered questions from committee members.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the elder abuse legislation but did not wish to speak:

Betsy Weihl, representing the Area Agencies on Aging Association

Kate White, representing Elder Law of Michigan

Lynn Weimeister, representing Beaumont Health Association

Dave Worthams, representing the Michigan Association of Bankers

Being no further business before the Committee, Senator Emmons adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date approved by the Committee: September 14, 2011

(An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.)