

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 04/10, 04/20

Vote:

Yeas: 8 - Buehler, Evans, Gallegos, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Piluso, Stark, Taylor

Nays: 1 - Parrish

Prepared By: Robyn Johnson, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows type B area agencies in service areas with a population of 650,000 or more, to bring civil action for physical or financial abuse of vulnerable persons. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cases of physical and financial abuse of elders

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Includes authority to seek relief for failures to reply to investigative demands.

BACKGROUND:

Current law explicitly authorizes the Attorney General, the Department of Human Services, and district attorneys to bring civil actions against persons suspected of physical or financial abuse of vulnerable persons, such as those who are 65 or older, or incapacitated, or those with a disability.

Area agencies are public or private nonprofits within designated planning and service areas that administer and support community-based care. Type A area agencies serve elderly persons and provide services that the local authority does not accept administrative responsibility for. Type B area agencies provide services to both elderly and disabled populations that local governments *do* accept administrative responsibility for.

House Bill 3323-A permits type B area agencies in service areas with populations of 650,000 or more to bring civil actions against those suspected of physical or financial abuse of vulnerable persons.