79th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2017 Regular Session

Enrolled House Bill 2622

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Judiciary)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to abuse prevention; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. As used in this section and section 2 of this 2017 Act:

(1) "Financial exploitation" has the meaning given that term in ORS 124.050.

(2) "Financial institution" means a financial institution or a trust company as those terms are defined in ORS 706.008.

(3) "Law enforcement agency" has the meaning given that term in ORS 124.050.

(4) "Vulnerable person" has the meaning given that term in ORS 124.100.

(5) "Vulnerable person's account" means a contract of deposit of funds between a depositor and a financial institution where:

(a) The account is owned by a vulnerable person, whether individually or with one or more other persons; or

(b) A vulnerable person is a beneficiary of the account, including of a formal or informal trust account, a payable on death account, a conservatorship account or a guardianship account.

<u>SECTION 2.</u> (1) When a financial institution reasonably believes, or has received information from the Department of Human Services, a law enforcement agency, or a district attorney's office demonstrating that it is reasonable to believe, that financial exploitation of a vulnerable person may have occurred, may have been attempted or is being attempted, and pending an investigation by the financial institution, the department, the law enforcement agency or the district attorney's office, the financial institution may but is not required to:

(a) Refuse a transaction with or involving the vulnerable person;

(b) Refuse to permit the withdrawal or disbursement of funds contained in a vulnerable person's account;

(c) Prevent a change in ownership of a vulnerable person's account;

(d) Prevent a transfer of funds from a vulnerable person's account to an account owned wholly or partially by another person; or

(e) Refuse to comply with instructions given to the financial institution by an agent or attorney-in-fact under a power of attorney signed or purported to have been signed by the vulnerable person.

(2) A financial institution is not required to act under subsection (1) of this section when provided with information alleging that financial exploitation may have occurred, may have

been attempted or is being attempted, but may use the financial institution's discretion to determine whether or not to act under subsection (1) of this section based on the information available to the financial institution at the time.

(3)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, a financial institution that acts under subsection (1) of this section shall make a reasonable effort to notify, orally or in writing, all parties currently authorized to transact business on the account concerning the financial institution's action.

(b) A financial institution is not required to provide the notice described in paragraph (a) of this subsection when the financial institution, in the financial institution's discretion, determines that providing notice could compromise an investigation of or response to the suspected financial exploitation.

(4) The authority granted to a financial institution under subsection (1) of this section will expire upon the sooner of:

(a) Fifteen business days after the date on which the financial institution first acted under subsection (1) of this section;

(b) When the financial institution is satisfied that the transaction or act will not result in financial exploitation of a vulnerable person; or

(c) Upon termination by an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(5) Unless otherwise directed by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, a financial institution may extend the duration under subsection (4) of this section based on a reasonable belief that the financial exploitation of a vulnerable person may have occurred, may have been attempted, or may continue to occur or be attempted.

(6) A financial institution and all employees of a financial institution are immune from criminal, civil and administrative liability for actions taken under subsections (1) and (5) of this section if the actions were taken in good faith.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> The authority granted to financial institutions under section 2 of this 2017 Act is in addition to and not in lieu of any right a financial institution may have under the financial institution's deposit or other contract with the financial institution's customer. Nothing in section 2 of this 2017 Act:

(1) Restricts the rights of a financial institution to take or refuse to take any action pursuant to the financial institution's deposit or other contract with the financial institution's customer; or

(2) Requires a financial institution to comply with any provision of section 2 of this 2017 Act when acting pursuant to the provisions of the financial institution's deposit or other contract with the financial institution's customer.

SECTION 4. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2017 Act become operative on October 1, 2017.

<u>SECTION 5.</u> This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by House April 20, 2017	Received by Governor:
Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House	Approved:
Tina Kotek, Speaker of House	
Passed by Senate June 5, 2017	Kate Brown, Governor
	Filed in Office of Secretary of State:
Peter Courtney, President of Senate	

Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State