

May 4, 2019

TO: Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Harold Cook, Jr.

RE: Support for SB2601A

I am strongly supporting SB2601A because my Mom is currently in the clutches of a court appointed guardian who, since her appointment over a year ago has denied me, other family members and friends unsupervised visits with Mom. This is totally contrary to Mom's wishes as she conveyed them to her attorney over a year ago.

Mom's court appointed guardian has contracted caregivers (strangers) staying with her 12 hours per day. Again, contrary to Mom's wishes as she was very vocal about it and at one point locked the caregiver out of the house. Mom has gotten to a point in her life where she does need some help, but her preference would be her family and her friends with minimal outside interference. Her guardian has not included her in any decision making processes. The guardian has made no effort to respect Mom's wishes nor involve her family in her care.

The guardian has allowed the caregivers access to her funds through a "household" debit card. The caregivers have used this card to take Mom on outings and pay for their own meals. Mom has the right to know how much all this is costing her, but the guardian has forbidden the family from talking with her about it. If Mom knew she was paying the caregivers over \$30/hour for daily care and \$55/hour to take her to family events and on outings to the dog park, garage sales and country drives, she would have a heart attack. None of this seems to be fulfilling the true intent of a guardianship but seems more like taking total control of someone's life and their finances.

Harold Cook, Jr.

Hillsboro, Oregon

Sent from my iPhone