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OFFICE VILST VERGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2011

ENROLLED

FOR House Bill No. 2362

(By Delegates Boggs, Perdue, Ashley and Barker)

Passed March 12, 2011

In Effect Ninety Days From Passage

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ENROLLED

CEFFE SECTION ARGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 2362

(BY DELEGATES BOGGS, PERDUE, ASHLEY AND BARKER)

[Passed March 12, 2011; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §61-2-29b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to crimes against the elderly, protected persons or incapacitated persons; financial exploitation of the elderly, protected persons and incapacitated adults for misappropriating or misusing assets; permitting the prosecutor to cumulate amounts or values when charging; permitting banking institutions and others to report suspected financial exploitation to law-enforcement authorities and other entities; permitting financial institutions to disclose suspicious activity reports or currency transaction reports to the prosecuting attorney; providing civil immunity for reporting; ordering restitution; and establishing the criminal penalty of larceny.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §61-2-29b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON.

- §61-2-29b. Financial exploitation of an elderly person, protected person or incapacitated adult; penalties; definitions.
 - 1 (a) Financial exploitation occurs when a person
 - 2 intentionally misappropriates or misuses the funds or assets
 - 3 of an elderly person, protected person or incapacitated adult.
 - 4 Any person who violates this section is guilty of larceny and
 - 5 shall be ordered to pay restitution.
 - 6 (b) In determining the value of the money, goods,
 - 7 property or services referred to in subsection (a) of the
 - 8 section, it shall be permissible to cumulate amounts or values
 - where such money, goods, property or services were
- 10 fraudulently obtained as part of a common scheme or plan.
- (c) Financial institutions and their employees, as defined 11
- 12 by section one, article two-a, chapter thirty-one-a of this code
- 13 and as permitted by section four, subsection thirteen of that
- 14 article, others engaged in financially related activities as
- 15 defined by section one, article eight-c, chapter thirty-one-a of
- 16 this code, caregivers, relatives and other concerned persons 17
- are permitted to report suspected cases of financial 18 exploitation to state or federal law-enforcement authorities,
- the county prosecuting attorney and to the Department of 19
- 20
- Health and Human Resources, Adult Protective Services
- 21 Division or Medicaid Fraud Division, as appropriate. Public
- 22 officers and employees are required to report suspected cases
- 23 of financial exploitation to the appropriate entities as stated
- 24 above. The requisite agencies shall investigate or cause the
- 25 investigation of the allegations.

- 26 (d) When financial exploitation is suspected and to the 27 extent permitted by federal law, financial institutions and 28 their employees or other business entities required by federal 29 law or regulation to file suspicious activity reports and 30 currency transaction reports shall also be permitted to 31 disclose suspicious activity reports or currency transaction 32 reports to the prosecuting attorney of any county in which the 33 transactions underlying the suspicious activity reports or 34 currency transaction reports occurred.
- 35 (e) Any person or entity that in good faith reports a 36 suspected case of financial exploitation pursuant to this 37 section is immune from civil liability founded upon making 38 that report.
- 39 (f) For the purposes of this section:
- 40 (1) "Incapacitated adult" means a person as defined by 41 section twenty-nine of this article;
- 42 (2) "Elderly person" means a person who is sixty-five 43 years or older; and
- 44 (3) "Protected person" means any person who is defined 45 as a "protected person" in subsection thirteen, section four, 46 article one, chapter forty-four-a of this code and who is 47 subject to the protections of chapter forty-four-a or forty-48 four-c of this code.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman, House Committee

Chairman, Senate Committee Originating in the House. To take effect ninety days from passage. Clerk of the Senate of the House of Delega the Senate this the 2011.

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

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