



Senator Grayson, Chair

Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee
1020 N Street, Room 522
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 871 (Stefani) Mandated reporters of suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult. **SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Grayson:

The Agency on Aging Area 4 (AAA4) writes to express our strong support for AB 871. This bill expands the requirements for mandated reporters, specifically those working at financial institutions, to report suspected financial abuse of elders or dependent adults. It mandates that in addition to reporting to local adult protective services or law enforcement, these reporters must also file a report with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) within two working days of suspecting abuse.

Financial institutions are now required to provide annual training to their employees who are mandated reporters, covering how to escalate suspected abuse internally and report it to both local and federal authorities, including the IC3 and the Federal Trade Commission. The bill also introduces a new requirement for financial institutions to immediately share information about reporting mechanisms with clients upon discovering potential financial abuse and to encourage those clients to submit complaints within 24 to 48 hours.

The California Retired Teachers Association noted, "[t]his important measure would require financial institutions to provide professional development on financial elder abuse and additionally expand the required reports to federal authorities to improve the coordination of resources and aid local law enforcement in their investigations to improve the opportunities to recover stolen funds. California has more seniors over the age of 60 than any other state. Financial scams can impede the mental health and retirement security of older residents, impacting the economy and mental health of the state. AB 871 would create tools to minimize these harmful effects." For these reasons, we are pleased to support SB 991.

Karen Flannagin
Advisory Council Vice Chair