



SB 338, Hueso, Elder Abuse Training

What is SB 338, and why do we need it?

SB 338 is a CARA-sponsored bill that strengthens law enforcement response to abuse of elders or adults with disabilities, with training and detailed policy manuals, based on a model San Diego County Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Blueprint.

SB 338 would update law enforcement manuals to improve the response to abuse involving elder and disabled persons. The bill would require that, if a local law enforcement agency adopts or revises a policy manual on elder and dependent adult abuse, that the policy must include certain provisions on enforcement and training, such as being alert for sexual or bias-based elder abuse, information on prevalence of elder abuse, translation services for hearing-impaired victims, provision of trained interviewers to tease out important information from elder or disabled victims and may other senior- and disability-friendly considerations. The new policies would have to be posted on its Internet web site.

The bill would also clarify which entities have jurisdiction to investigate elder and dependent adult abuse.

In 2018, the San Diego County's District Attorney, Health and Human Services Agency, Aging and Independence Services, City Attorney's Office, and local law enforcement introduced the first ever San Diego County Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Blueprint, committing the County to a written set of goals and a coordinated community response to elder and dependent adult abuse, including model practices and response by law enforcement, prosecution and others.

Responding to an increase in elder abuse crimes and prosecutions, as well as the impending explosion of the elder population, the District Attorney brought together countywide stakeholders in November 2017 for a first ever "think-tank" of experts, including professionals from all disciplines that serve as touchpoints for elder and dependent adults. Those experts identified gaps and needs in our community, and set goals for the future which resulted in the creation of the new Blueprint.

Where is SB 338 in the legislative process?

SB 338 has been passed by the full Assembly, and is in concurrence, ironing out small differences between the Senate and Assembly versions.

What Can You Do to Help Pass SB 338?

Please contact Governor Newsom.

Phone: (916) 445-2841

Fax: (916) 558-3160

Or leave comment at <https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/>

Tell him to sign SB 338:

- Elder and dependent abuse is on the rise, and will rise faster as our population ages.
- Elder and dependent abuse must be treated as the crime it is.
- Law enforcement must be trained to detect and prosecute elder and dependent abuse.