



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 6, 2010

TO: All Members of the Delaware State Senate
and House of Representatives

FROM: Ms. Daniese McMullin-Powell *D.M./EP*
Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: H.B. 348 [Crime Against Vulnerable Adult]

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed H.B. 348 and H.S. 1 to H.B. 348 which is intended to provide greater protections for Delaware's "vulnerable" individuals by increasing penalties for crimes committed against them. As background, SCPD collaborated with the Division of Long Term Care Residents Protection (DLTCRP) in the context of the definition of "vulnerable adult" and doubling of sentences. This resulted in the introduction of the substitute bill by Representative Valerie Longhurst. SCPD endorses H.S. 1 to H.B. 348 since people with disabilities and the elderly are disproportionately at risk of physical, emotional and/or financial exploitation.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions regarding our position on the proposed legislation.

cc: The Honorable Jack A. Markell
The Honorable Susan Del Pesco
Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council