Bill No. HB 1041 (2021)

Amendment No.1

## COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION ADOPTED \_\_\_ (Y/N) ADOPTED AS AMENDED \_\_\_ (Y/N) ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION \_\_\_ (Y/N) FAILED TO ADOPT \_\_\_ (Y/N) WITHDRAWN \_\_\_ (Y/N) OTHER

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Judiciary Committee Representative Burton offered the following:

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## Amendment

Remove lines

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Remove lines 103-327 and insert:

- (b) Has been convicted in any state or foreign jurisdiction of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of "an elderly person" or a "disabled adult," as those terms are defined in s. 825.101.
- $\underline{\text{(c)}}$  (b) Is mentally or physically unable to perform the duties.
  - (d) <del>(e)</del> Is under the age of 18 years.
- Section 3. Section 732.8031, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- 732.8031 Forfeiture for abuse, neglect, exploitation, or aggravated manslaughter of an elderly person or disabled adult.—

903489 - h1041-ln103.docx

(1) A surviving person who is convicted in any state or
foreign jurisdiction of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or
aggravated manslaughter of "an elderly person" or a "disabled
adult," as those terms are defined in s. 825.101, for conduct
against the decedent or another person on whose death such
beneficiary's interest depends is not entitled to any benefits
under the will of the decedent or the Florida Probate Code, and
the estate of the decedent passes as if the abuser, neglector,
exploiter, or killer had predeceased the decedent. Property
appointed by the will of the decedent to or for the benefit of
the abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer passes as if the
abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer had predeceased the
decedent.

- (a) A final judgment of conviction for abuse, neglect, exploitation, or aggravated manslaughter of the decedent or other person creates a rebuttable presumption that this section applies.
- (b) In the absence of a qualifying conviction, the court may determine by the greater weight of the evidence whether the decedent's or other person's death was caused by or contributed to by the abuser's, neglector's, exploiter's, or killer's conduct as defined in s. 825.102, s. 825.103, or s. 782.07 (2) for purposes of this section.
- (2) A joint tenant who is convicted in any state or foreign jurisdiction of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or

903489 - h1041-ln103.docx

aggravated manslaughter of "an elderly person" or a "disabled
adult," as those terms are defined in s. 825.101, for conduct
against another joint tenant decedent thereby effects a
severance of the interest of the decedent so that the share of
the decedent passes as the decedent's sole property and as if
the abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer has no rights by
survivorship. This subsection applies to joint tenancies with
right of survivorship and tenancies by the entirety in real and
personal property; joint and multiple-party accounts in banks,
savings and loan associations, credit unions, and other
financial institutions; and any other form of coownership with
survivorship interests.

- (a) A final judgment of conviction for abuse, neglect, exploitation, or aggravated manslaughter of the decedent or other person creates a rebuttable presumption that this section applies.
- (b) In the absence of a qualifying conviction, the court may determine by the greater weight of the evidence whether the decedent's or other person's death was caused by or contributed to by the abuser's, neglector's, exploiter's, or killer's conduct as defined in s. 825.102, s. 825.103, or s. 782.07 (2) for purposes of this section.
- (3) A named beneficiary of a bond, life insurance policy, or other contractual arrangement who is convicted in any state or foreign jurisdiction of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or

903489 - h1041-ln103.docx

 aggravated manslaughter of "an elderly person" or a "disabled adult," as those terms are defined in s. 825.101, for conduct against the owner or principal obligee of the bond, life insurance policy, or other contractual arrangement or the person upon whose life such policy was issued is not entitled to any benefit under the bond, policy, or other contractual arrangement, and the bond, policy, or other contractual arrangement becomes payable as though the abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer had predeceased the decedent.

- (a) A final judgment of conviction for abuse, neglect, exploitation, or aggravated manslaughter of the decedent or other person creates a rebuttable presumption that this section applies.
- (b) In the absence of a qualifying conviction, the court may determine by the greater weight of the evidence whether the decedent's or other person's death was caused by or contributed to by the abuser's, neglector's, exploiter's, or killer's conduct as defined in s. 825.102, s. 825.103, or s. 782.07 (2) for purposes of this section.
- (4) Any other acquisition of property or interest by the abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer, including a life estate in homestead property, shall be treated in accordance with the principles of this section.
- (5) (a) This section does not affect the rights of any person who, before rights under this section have been

903489 - h1041-ln103.docx

adjudicated, purchases from the abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer for value and without notice property that the abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer would have acquired except for this section.

- (b) The abuser, neglector, exploiter, or killer is liable for the amount of the proceeds or the value of the property under paragraph (a).
- (6) Any insurance company, bank, or other obligor making payment according to the terms of its policy or obligation is not liable by reason of this section unless before payment it receives at its home office or principal address written notice of a claim under this section.
- clear and convincing evidence that, after the conviction of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, the victim of the offense, if capacitated, ratifies an intent that the person so convicted of abuse, neglect, or exploitation retain their inheritance, survivorship rights, or any other right that might otherwise be removed by this section by executing a valid written instrument, sworn to and witnessed by two persons who would be competent as witnesses to a will, which expresses a specific intent to allow the convicted person to retain his or her inheritance, survivorship rights, or any other right that might otherwise be removed by this section.

Section 4. Subsection (3) is added to section 736.1104,

903489 - h1041 - ln103.docx

117 Florida Statutes, to read:

736.1104 <u>Person</u> <del>Killer</del> not entitled to receive property or other benefits by reason of victim's death.—

- (3) A beneficiary of a trust who was convicted in any state or foreign jurisdiction of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or aggravated manslaughter of "an elderly person" or a "disabled adult," as those terms are defined in s. 825.101, for conduct against a settlor or another person on whose death such beneficiary's interest depends is not entitled to any trust interest, including a homestead dependent on the victim's death, and such interest shall devolve as though the abuser, neglecter, exploiter, or killer had predeceased the victim.
- (a) A final judgment of conviction for abuse, neglect, exploitation, or aggravated manslaughter of the decedent or other person creates a rebuttable presumption that this section applies.
- (b) In the absence of a qualifying conviction, the court may determine by the greater weight of the evidence whether the decedent's or other person's death was either caused by or contributed to by the abuser's, neglector's, exploiter's, or killer's conduct as defined in s. 825.102, s. 825.103, or s. 782.07 (2) for purposes of this section.
- (c) This section does not apply if it can be proven by clear and convincing evidence that, after the conviction of abuse, neglect or exploitation, the victim of the offense, if

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capacitated, ratifies an intent that the person so convicted of
abuse, neglect, or exploitation retain a trust interest by
executing a valid, written instrument, sworn to and witnessed by
two persons who would be competent as witnesses to a will, which
expresses a specific intent to allow the convicted person to
retain a trust interest.

Section 5. Subsections (8) through (14) of section 825.101, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (10) through (16), respectively, and new subsections (8) and (9) are added to that section, to read:

825.101 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

- (8) "Improper benefit" means any remuneration or payment, by or on behalf of any service provider or merchant of goods, to any person as an incentive or inducement to refer customers or patrons for past or future services or goods.
- (9) "Kickback" has the same meaning as in s. 456.054(1).

  Section 6. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of section 825.102, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, to read:
- 825.102 Abuse, aggravated abuse, and neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult; penalties.—
  - (1) "Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult" means:
- 164 (b) An intentional act that could reasonably be expected
  165 to result in physical or psychological injury to an elderly
  166 person or disabled adult; or

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(d) Intentionally, and without lawful authority, isolating or restricting access of an elderly person or a disabled adult to family members for any length of time which could reasonably be expected to result in physical or psychological injury to the elderly person or disabled adult, or with the intent to promote, facilitate, conceal, or disguise some form of criminal activity involving the person or property of the elderly person or disabled adult. It is a defense to a violation of this paragraph that the defendant had reasonable cause to believe that his or her action was necessary to protect the elderly person or disabled adult from danger to his or her welfare.

A person who knowingly or willfully abuses an elderly person or disabled adult without causing great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent disfigurement to the elderly person or disabled adult commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 7. Paragraphs (c), (d), and (e) of subsection (1) of section 825.103, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (f) is added to that subsection, to read:

825.103 Exploitation of an elderly person or disabled

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- (1) "Exploitation of an elderly person or disabled adult" means:
- (c) Breach of a fiduciary duty to an elderly person or disabled adult by the person's guardian, trustee who is an individual, or agent under a power of attorney which results in an unauthorized appropriation, sale, or transfer of property, kickback, or receipt of an improper benefit. An unauthorized appropriation under this paragraph occurs when the elderly person or disabled adult does not receive the reasonably equivalent financial value in goods or services, or when the fiduciary violates any of these duties:
  - 1. For agents appointed under chapter 709:
  - a. Committing fraud in obtaining their appointments;
- b. Obtaining appointments with the purpose and design of benefiting someone other than the principal or beneficiary;
  - c.b. Abusing their powers;
- d.e. Wasting, embezzling, or intentionally mismanaging the assets of the principal or beneficiary; or
- <u>e.d.</u> Acting contrary to the principal's sole benefit or best interest; or
- 2. For guardians and trustees who are individuals and who are appointed under chapter 736 or chapter 744:
  - a. Committing fraud in obtaining their appointments;
  - b. Obtaining appointments with the purpose and design of

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- c.b. Abusing their powers; or
- <u>d.e.</u> Wasting, embezzling, or intentionally mismanaging the assets of the ward or beneficiary of the trust;
- (d) Misappropriating, misusing, or transferring without authorization money belonging to an elderly person or disabled adult from an account in which the elderly person or disabled adult placed the funds, owned the funds, and was the sole contributor or payee of the funds before the misappropriation, misuse, or unauthorized transfer. This paragraph only applies to the following types of accounts:
  - 1. Personal accounts;
- 2. Joint accounts created with the intent that only the elderly person or disabled adult enjoys all rights, interests, and claims to moneys deposited into such account; or
- 3. Convenience accounts created in accordance with s. 655.80;  $\frac{\text{or}}{\text{or}}$
- (e) Intentionally or negligently failing to effectively use an elderly person's or disabled adult's income and assets for the necessities required for that person's support and maintenance, by a caregiver or a person who stands in a position of trust and confidence with the elderly person or disabled adult; or
- (f) Knowingly obtaining or using, endeavoring to obtain or use, or conspiring with another to obtain or use an elderly

903489 - h1041-ln103.docx

## COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT Bill No. HB 1041 (2021)

Amendment No.1

person's or a disabled adult's funds, assets, property, or
estate through intentional modification, alteration, or
fraudulent creation of a plan of distribution or disbursement
expressed in a will, trust agreement, or other testamentary
devise of the elderly person or disabled adult without:

- 1. A court order, from a court having jurisdiction over the elderly person or disabled adult, which authorizes the modification or alteration;
- 2. A written instrument executed by the elderly person or disabled adult, sworn to and witnessed by two persons who would be competent as witnesses to a will, which authorizes the modification or alteration; or
- 3. Action of an agent under a valid power of attorney executed by the elderly person or disabled adult which authorizes the modification or alteration.

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