

Dear Susan Manchester and members of the Family, Aging and Human services committee,

My name is Tabatha Vanni and I am writing a proponent testimony in regards to Esther's Law SB 58.

I am writing to show my support for Esther's law SB 58. We need to protect our elders and also ourselves, as one day we will become seniors.

Esther Piskor was my grandmother. She was more than a grandmother to me. She gained custody of me and was my legal guardian since the age of 2. She was my mother.

In her early 60's , I witnessed my mother's memory deteriorate. She forgot her name, age, how to cook, how to use the restroom etc. For years she thought she was age 16, and thought I was her best friend at the time. One day she woke up and just forgot about it, Forgot who she was, who I was, etc. By late 60's she couldn't speak anymore, she couldn't walk, or even feed herself. My heart broke. It was just like that movie Benjamin Button. She was now in an infant like state. Unable to speak, talk, feed herself or change herself. Just as an infant would cry if something was wrong, this was now what my mother doing.

When her abuse started, she would cry when we would leave. We didn't figure out why for months down the road when we caught the abuse on tape. We would have Never known about the abuse she faced without the camera's being there. We need to protect our elderly. As one day, we may be in their shoes. Imagine, not being able to speak, or walk, unable to defend yourself, or speak when someone is hurting you. Camera's will help prevent abuse.

This is why this is so important. There are elders out there that cannot speak for themselves. We need to help them. Please pass SB 58.

Thank you,  
Tabatha Vanni  
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