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Tallahassee Is Gaslighting Us — They're "Protecting" Vulnerable Adults by Exploiting Them

 Billie Tucker Volpe  July 10, 2025

If there's one thing we've learned from watching the Florida Legislature, it's this: when a bill sounds too good to be true, it usually is.

Take CS/SB 106, for example — a bill with a noble-sounding title: "*Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults*." Who could oppose that? We all want to protect the elderly from scams and abuse.

But dig a little deeper, and you'll find something far more sinister: **a dangerous shift of power, a blow to civil liberties, and a new pathway to state-sanctioned exploitation — all dressed up as "protection."**

The Real Solution Already Exists

Let's start with what actually works.

Yes, people of all ages can fall victim to scams, whether it's a shady business deal or a manipulative relationship. But Florida already passed a **common sense** solution in 2024 — **supportive decision-making**.

This legal tool allows individuals to appoint trusted family members or friends as their power of attorney or healthcare surrogate. These advocates can step in if financial red flags arise — without the government stripping anyone of their rights.

Even Governor Ron DeSantis supported this approach to prevent unnecessary guardianships. So why is Tallahassee now pushing a law that does the opposite?

What CS/SB 106 *Really* Does

CS/SB 106 gives sweeping power to the last people you'd want controlling your money: **bankers and probate attorneys**.

Under this bill, **complete strangers** — not your family, not someone you chose — can freeze your assets if they suspect you're mismanaging funds.

And here's the kicker: **they can serve legal notices through TikTok and Facebook screenshots.**

Let that sink in: Social media screenshots can now be used to "notify" your family before a court takes control of your money. If your family doesn't see the post or respond within 30 days?

Game over. Forced guardianship begins.

A Chilling Scenario

Picture this: A grandmother sends money to her grandkids in another state. A bank flags the transaction. Suddenly, she's accused of being exploited. Her account is frozen. Her family is "notified" via a Facebook DM or TikTok message they never see. A judge is handed a few screenshots. Her assets? Seized. Her rights? Gone. Her future? Controlled by a court-appointed guardian.

And you thought your social media was just for cat videos.

A Law That Can — and *Will* — Be Weaponized

During debate on the bill, one brave lawmaker pointed out the obvious double standard: people of all ages get scammed.

He even shared how he was conned by a woman in his youth — so why is this law only targeting older adults?

Then he asked the question no one wanted to answer: If probate attorneys can now serve legal documents via TikTok, what's stopping every attorney in Florida from doing the same?

The room exploded. And privately? Several lawmakers admitted: **he had a point.**

But they passed the bill anyway.

First Maya. Now This.

Earlier this week, we shared the heartbreakin case behind **Take Care of Maya**, the Netflix documentary that exposed how a Florida family was torn apart by the state's guardianship system — a corrupt web of hospitals, attorneys, and courts that hijacked parental rights and shattered lives.

That story should have been a wake-up call for Tallahassee.

Instead, lawmakers hit snooze — and doubled down.

CS/SB 106 is *not* a fix. It's a fresh coat of paint on the same broken Guardianship machine that Tallahassee uses to exploit us.

A system that says "we know what's best" while robbing citizens of their basic freedoms — all behind closed doors.

It's time to call it what it is: **state-sanctioned abuse.**

What You Can Do

If you're over 60 — or love someone who is — now is the time to act.

📞 **Call your state representative. Call the Governor's office.**

Ask them: **"What the hell were you thinking?"**

And more importantly: **"What are you going to do to fix it?"**

If they do nothing, make a note:

At election time, rally your friends — all your "elderly" friends — and make sure these

lawmakers never sit at the political table again.

Florida seniors built this state. They deserve protection – not betrayal.



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Billie Tucker Volpe Founder of Eye on Jacksonville and Leadership Consultant to CEOs/Executives. She is a faith-driven communicator, truth-seeker, and advocate for principled leadership. Guided by her Christian values and a calling to serve, she uses the power of words to expose injustice, uplift community voices, and shine light in dark places. Whether she's challenging government waste, amplifying entrepreneurs, or defending American ideals, her work is rooted in faith, integrity, and bold conviction. She believes every story has a purpose, and every platform is a chance to speak life, stir hearts, and spark change – all for the glory of God and the good of others.

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