



June 25, 2025

Honorable Thomas Umberg
Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3240
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 561 (Quirk-Silva) Restraining Orders – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Umberg,

The Consumer Protection Policy Center (CPPC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, academic center of research, teaching, learning and advocacy in regulatory and public interest law based at the University of San Diego School of Law. **CPPC supports AB 561 (Quirk-Silva)**, which improves access to the court system for elder and dependent adults, when seeking a restraining order that will prevent abuse and exploitation. This bill adjusts California’s legal framework to better protect older adults including those with cognitive impairment that could impede their ability to seek the court’s assistance.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has provided that one in 10 people over the age of 60 will experience elder abuse. Older adults may be both more vulnerable to experiencing abuse and less capable of navigating the legal system. The Alzheimer’s Association appreciates that AB 561 empowers individuals with supported decision-making, which minimizes the need for guardianship and conservators.

This legislation removes barriers to seeking restraining orders that could be especially difficult for individuals living with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementia to overcome. For these reasons, we strongly support AB 561 and ask that you support it when it comes before you in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

Marcus Friedman

Marcus Friedman
Administrative Director, Consumer Protection Policy Center
Centers for Public Interest Law
University of San Diego School of Law