

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

June 12, 2018

Proclaim June 2018 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month, and June 15, 2018 as Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Every year, millions of elderly individuals and dependent adults become victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. These victims are our parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, neighbors and other loved ones, and they experience unimaginable abuse, such as mental suffering, physical and sexual abuse, as well as neglect, abandonment, isolation and financial exploitation. Last year, Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) – which administers the Adult Protective Services – received and responded to 55,389 referrals of elder and dependent adult abuse. This is a record in Los Angeles County and an 11% increase over the previous year.

Community awareness and engagement are vital, and it is critical that all Angelenos learn how to recognize and report mistreatment. Los Angeles County has again teamed with the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) and other partners to spearhead the Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness month campaign throughout the month of June. The goal of this campaign is to educate our communities, elected officials, and law enforcement agencies throughout the state about elder and

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dependent adult abuse. Additionally, the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) and the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) declare June 15, 2018 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, recognizing the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim June 2018 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness month throughout Los Angeles County;
2. Proclaim June 15, 2018 as Elder Abuse Awareness Day throughout Los Angeles County;
3. Encourage the Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (Adult Protective Services), Consumer and Business Affairs, Department of Health Services (LAC-USC Medical Center and Harbor-UCLA Medical Center), Department of Mental Health (GENESIS and the Office of Public Guardian), Department of Public Social Services, the Office of the District Attorney (Elder Abuse Prosecution Unit), the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, the Los Angeles County Forensic Center, and law enforcement agencies to continue working collaboratively to ensure that our elderly residents and dependent adults maintain their quality of life with dignity, respect, and safety, and educate the general public about the prevention, reporting, and elimination of elder and dependent adult abuse in Los Angeles County.

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