**Please send a support letter – On your letter head**

**Sample Governor Letter – SB 1320 (Stern)**

**Send Email To:**  Alex.Lee@sen.ca.gov

[Date]

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Governor, State of California

California State Capitol

Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Request for Signature on SB 1320 (Stern): Elder or dependent adult abuse: victim confidentiality**

Dear Governor Brown:

[Name of organization] is writing to respectfully request your signature on SB 1320, which will extend the Secretary of State’s California Address Confidentiality Program, known as Safe at Home, to victims of elder or dependent adult abuse. This modest yet necessary change will protect some of our most vulnerable citizens.

[Talk about your organization and how it relates to this bill]

According to studies completed by the National Council on Aging, 10% of Americans over the age of 60 experience elder abuse in some capacity. Elder financial abuse and fraud costs older Americans an estimated minimum of $36.5 billion a year and elders are 300% more likely to pass away earlier when abused.

Since 1999, the Safe at Home program has provided an additional layer of defense for victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking, in addition to reproductive healthcare employees. The logical next stop is to extend this measure to elder or dependent adult abuse victims as they frequently endure physical disabilities, senility, and social isolation. These obstacles make them exceptionally vulnerable to abuse.

SB 1320 will simply assign allow victims of elder or dependent abuse the opportunity to receive a confidential substitute mailing address that is accepted by state, county, and city government agencies in lieu of a personal mailing address where the victim can be tracked down. In preventing home addresses from being accessed through public records, a participant’s information is shielded from their abusers. For these reasons, [our organization] supports SB 1320 and encourages your favorable signature.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title]