

Vulnerable Adult Act Legislative Workgroup Charge

The Legislative Workgroup is organized to develop and advance a consensus VAA legislative proposal for the 2009 Minnesota Legislature, based on research and discussion conducted by the VAA Stakeholder Group in 2008.

Coordinator: Iris C. Freeman, for the William Mitchell College of Law,
Center for Elder Justice and Policy

Develop a Proposal that is Broadly Supported and Achievable. (September and October 2008)

Review the priorities that have surfaced and appear to have potential.

Examine the level of consensus that exists now.

Identify where more information is needed; seek it.

Engage feedback from pertinent stakeholders as necessary.

Identify challenges or unintended consequences.

Estimate, where possible, proposals' costs to state and local governments; private sector organizations

Report back to the Stakeholders on October 31

Prepare for 2009 Legislative Action. (November and December 2008)

Gain commitments from Chief Authors, Senate ASAP.

Draft legislation (ideally with Senate Counsel involved)

Assure continued support from stakeholder group.

Secure support from other key stakeholders.

Identify and respond to opposition.

Pay attention to related issues on track for 2009 session
(e.g. guardianship, quality assurance)

Write handouts (talking points) for advocacy and networking.

Occupy the Front Lines of the Legislative Action. (2009 Legislative Session)

Meet with legislators to advocate passage.

Work with authors on tactical and substantive matters.

Communicate with stakeholders, especially at key action steps.

Monitor progress, with trouble-shooting as needed.

Evaluation and celebration at the conclusion of session

[discussion and approval September 26, 2008]