Submitted Testimony of Tim Jin

Orange County, California

for the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution

"Toxic Conservatorships: The Need for Reform" Hearing

September 28, 2021

Hi. My name is Tim Jin and I live in Orange County, California. I'm a Korean American man who has cerebral palsy. I am using a communication device at the base of my wheelchair, by typing with my toes.

I am 46. My family never thought about conserving me. Just because I'm disabled, it doesn't mean that I can't function on my own. My parents don't have power of attorney on anything, surely not my bank account. I'm going through the process of setting up a Durable Health Care Power of Attorney with my brothers, letting them know my wishes.

My parents gave me free will and I learned from my mistakes.

I understand that guardianship is something that most families have to face because who doesn't want your adult child to be safe.

When a person is being conserved, they have fewer rights than somebody that is in prison.

I've been living on my own with the assistance from my staff for over 20 years. No one has control over me.

I know many people who are in a similar situation, but they get help from others in their circle to live their lives how they want to and they don't need guardianship whatsoever.

Guardianship is not the answer. There are so many different options to maintain the safety of your loved ones.

Thank you for allowing me to speak to you today.

Tim Jin can be reached at tim@jinonline.net. *This written testimony is the transcript of submitted video testimony that can be viewed here: https://bit.ly/3EOv6mM*