

Union Calendar No. 588

116TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8169

[Report No. 116-704]

To amend the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act to authorize the Elder Justice Initiative, to require that online resources of such initiative are made available in Spanish, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

Ms. GARCIA of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

DECEMBER 31, 2020

Additional sponsors: Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. STANTON, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. COHEN

DECEMBER 31, 2020

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act to authorize the Elder Justice Initiative, to require that online resources of such initiative are made available in Spanish, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Elder Abuse Protection
5 Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE.**

7 Section 101(b) of the Elder Abuse Prevention and
8 Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21711(b)) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 “(b) ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE.—

11 “(1) PERMANENT INITIATIVE.—The Attorney
12 General shall establish within the Criminal Division
13 an Elder Justice Initiative to coordinate criminal en-
14 forcement and public engagement efforts to combat
15 elder abuse, neglect, and financial fraud and scams
16 that target elders, and to support and coordinate the
17 efforts of the Elder Justice Coordinators designated
18 under subsection (a).

19 “(2) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ELDER JUSTICE
20 COORDINATOR.—The Attorney General shall des-
21 ignate an Elder Justice Coordinator within the De-
22 partment of Justice who, in addition to any other re-
23 sponsibilities, shall be responsible for—

24 “(A) coordinating and supporting the law
25 enforcement efforts and policy activities as the

1 head of the Elder Justice Initiative for the De-
2 partment of Justice on elder justice issues;

3 “(B) evaluating training models to deter-
4 mine best practices and creating or compiling
5 and making publicly available replication guides
6 and training materials for law enforcement offi-
7 cers, prosecutors, judges, emergency respond-
8 ers, individuals working in victim services, adult
9 protective services, social services, and public
10 safety, medical personnel, mental health per-
11 sonnel, financial services personnel, and any
12 other individuals whose work may bring them in
13 contact with elder abuse regarding how to—

14 “(i) conduct investigations in elder
15 abuse cases;

16 “(ii) address evidentiary issues and
17 other legal issues; and

18 “(iii) appropriately assess, respond to,
19 and interact with victims and witnesses in
20 elder abuse cases, including in administra-
21 tive, civil, and criminal judicial pro-
22 ceedings; and

23 “(C) carrying out such other duties as the
24 Attorney General determines necessary in con-
25 nection with enhancing the understanding, pre-

1 vention, and detection of, and response to, elder
2 abuse.

3 “(3) ONLINE PUBLIC RESOURCES.—The Elder
4 Justice Initiative shall maintain and publish on the
5 internet, information aimed at protecting elders
6 from fraudulent schemes and contain resources
7 aimed at preventing elder abuse.

8 “(4) SPANISH LANGUAGE RESOURCES.—The
9 Attorney General shall ensure that Elder Justice
10 Initiative online resources are available in Spanish
11 and link linguistically appropriate resources to in-
12 form Spanish-speaking elders of Federal and State
13 resources to combat fraud and abuse that targets
14 the elderly, to include—

15 “(A) Spanish-language resources and links
16 that help report instances of elder fraud and
17 abuse to State and local law enforcement; and

18 “(B) resources that help prevent financial
19 exploitation of elders.”.

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