



The Elder Justice Coalition

A National Advocacy Voice for Elder Justice in America

John B. Breaux, Honorary Chair • Robert B. Blancato, National Coordinator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 12, 2018

Contact: Robert Blancato 202-789-0470

SENATE AND HOUSE INTRODUCE BILL TO STAMP OUT ELDER ABUSE

The non-partisan Elder Justice Coalition today commended the introduction of the *Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act* in both the House and Senate.

“We applaud the work of Senators Susan Collins, Claire McCaskill, and Amy Klobuchar and Representatives Peter King, Carolyn Maloney, Suzanne Bonamici, and Jan Schakowsky on the introduction of the *Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2018*, which will create a semi-postal stamp to provide additional funding to the federal government for programs to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The EJC is proud to have worked closely on this legislation with the sponsors and advocates, including Philip C. Marshall, founder of *Beyond Brooke*, a cause-based campaign named to honor Philip’s late grandmother, Brooke Astor, who was a well-known philanthropist, recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a victim of elder abuse and elder financial exploitation,” stated Bob Blancato, National Coordinator of the Coalition which represents more than 3,000 members across the country.

The legislation directs the United States Postal Service to develop the semi-postal stamp and use the proceeds from its sales to provide funding to augment the elder justice initiatives at both the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and Human Services and at the Department of Justice. These programs include prevention, education, data collection, services to protect and support victims, and demonstration projects, in addition to initiatives to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of elder abuse and financial exploitation. The bill also allows the departments to use their own resources to support dissemination of the stamp and precludes reductions of current funding levels once revenues from the stamps become available.

“The menace of elder abuse continues in America. The Department of Justice estimates that one in ten older Americans experience elder abuse. The Elder Justice Coalition has begun its work to support quick passage of these bills. A priority of the coalition will be to get additional co-sponsors on both the House and Senate bills, and we stand ready to create a movement around public purchase of these stamps when they become available,” Blancato added.

###