



The Elder Justice Coalition

A National Advocacy Voice for Elder Justice in America

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

June 10, 2016

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

The 3000-member nonpartisan Elder Justice Coalition is pleased to strongly support the Seniors Fraud Prevention Act of 2016 and to commend you again for sponsoring it.

In our nation today, it is estimated by the Federal Trade Commission that 8.3 percent of adults age 65 and above experience some form of consumer fraud. This is why your bill's provision to create an advisory office within the FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection is both timely and important. This office would increase oversight and education. Your bill would also mandate the FTC to monitor specific scams aimed at seniors, strengthen the complaint system and coordinate with other federal agencies.

As you have pointed out on numerous occasions, elder financial abuse is a growing national scandal. It has been estimated that elderly victims lose nearly \$3 billion per year through financial elder abuse. We are making small strides through laws like the Elder Justice Act and the work of this Administration through the Elder Justice Coordinating Council. However, your bill would be an important additional tool in this fight and we urge its passage.

We understand that your bill will be considered in committee on Wednesday, June 15, which coincides with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. We hope that will serve as an inducement for passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert B. Blancato".

Robert B. Blancato
National Coordinator
Elder Justice Coalition