

May 25, 2021

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL URGES CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TO SUPPORT FRAUD AND SCAM REDUCTION ACT

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today joined a bipartisan coalition of 47 attorneys general in [sending a letter](#) urging congressional leaders to support the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act. The act, comprised of the Stop Senior Scam Act and Seniors Fraud Prevention Act of 2021, will assist stakeholders in training employees to recognize the warning signs of elder fraud and to prevent irreversible damage to elderly victims.

"Scammers frequently seek to exploit and take advantage of older adults, and this legislation will provide stakeholders with education and outreach that will help them identify signs of fraud and financial exploitation of older people," Raoul said. "I encourage Congress to pass this legislation to help states protect older adults from becoming victims of fraud and financial exploitation."

The Fraud and Scam Reduction Act, H.R. 1215, is bipartisan legislation that will provide innovative ways to combat the financial exploitation of older adults. The legislation will establish the Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group that is accountable to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The group will collect data generated by stakeholders such as retailers, financial services and wire-transfer companies to help those entities educate their employees on how to identify and prevent scams that target older adults. The group will develop training and educational materials for those employees best suited to identify the warning signs of elder fraud.

The act also establishes the Office for the Prevention of Fraud Targeting Seniors to be housed in the FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection. The office will complement the efforts of the Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group by:

- Monitoring emerging scams that target older adults through the internet, mail, robocalls, telemarketing and television.
- Disseminating information on common fraud schemes.
- Sharing information on how to report suspected senior fraud scams to a national fraud hotline and the FTC's Consumer Sentinel Network.

The FTC also will work with the U.S. Attorney General's office to log and track complaints from victims and relay the information to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

Joining Raoul in sending the letter are the attorneys general of Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, the Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.