



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 13

LCO No. 5068



Referred to Committee on AGING

Introduced by:
(AGE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCIAL FRAUD SCHEMES
PERPETRATED AGAINST SENIOR CITIZENS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Within available
2 appropriations, there is established within the Division of State Police
3 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection a
4 state-wide elder abuse task force for the effective enforcement of the
5 laws of this state concerning elder abuse.

6 (b) The task force shall conduct investigations in coordination with
7 the elder justice unit established pursuant to sections 51-279 of the
8 general statutes, as amended by this act, and 51-279b of the general
9 statutes, as amended by this act, and may investigate suspected elder
10 abuse at any place within the state as the task force deems necessary.

11 (c) The task force may (1) request and receive from any federal, state
12 or local agency cooperation and assistance in the performance of its
13 duties, including the temporary assignment of personnel that may be
14 necessary to carry out the performance of its functions, (2) enter into
15 mutual assistance and cooperation agreements with other states

16 pertaining to elder abuse law enforcement matters extending across
17 state boundaries, and (3) consult and exchange information and
18 personnel with agencies of other states with reference to elder abuse law
19 enforcement problems of mutual concern.

20 (d) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
21 may appoint a commanding officer and such other personnel as said
22 commissioner deems necessary for the duties of the task force.

23 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 51-279 of the general statutes is
24 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
25 *1, 2025*):

26 (a) The Chief State's Attorney, with the advice of the Division of
27 Criminal Justice Advisory Board under section 51-279a, shall
28 administer, direct, supervise, coordinate and control the operations,
29 activities and programs of the division as it shall apply to the Superior
30 Court. [He] The Chief State's Attorney shall: (1) Establish such bureaus,
31 divisions, facilities and offices, including an appellate unit, a
32 racketeering and continuing criminal activities unit, [and] a bond
33 forfeiture unit and an elder justice unit, and select such professional,
34 technical and other personnel, including chief inspectors, as [he] the
35 Chief State's Attorney deems reasonably necessary for the efficient
36 operation and discharge of the duties of the division, subject to the
37 personnel policies and compensation plan established by the
38 Department of Administrative Services; (2) adopt and enforce rules and
39 regulations to carry out the purposes of this chapter; (3) establish
40 guidelines, policies and procedures for the internal operation and
41 administration of the division which shall be binding on all division
42 personnel; (4) enter into contracts with consultants and such other
43 persons as are necessary for the proper functioning of the office; (5)
44 engage in long-range planning and review policy and legislation
45 concerning the administration of criminal justice in the state and
46 recommend needed changes and additions thereto; (6) collect statistical
47 data concerning administration of criminal justice in the state and

48 furnish the data to the appropriate committee of the General Assembly;
49 (7) conduct research and evaluate programs within his office; (8)
50 establish staff development, training and education programs designed
51 to improve the quality of the division's services and programs; (9)
52 coordinate the activities of the division with those of such other state,
53 municipal, regional, federal and private agencies as are concerned with
54 the administration of criminal justice; (10) be authorized to receive and
55 administer funds from the federal government or any charitable
56 foundation to assist in the operations of the division; (11) supervise,
57 approve and issue all orders concerning all purchases of commodities,
58 equipment and services for the Division of Criminal Justice; (12)
59 supervise the administrative methods and systems employed in the
60 Division of Criminal Justice; (13) submit to the Department of
61 Administrative Services for its approval a compensation plan for all
62 employees of the division, which plan may include sick leave, vacation
63 leave, absences without pay, longevity payments, increments and all
64 other matters regarding personnel policies and procedures; (14)
65 establish with the approval of the Department of Administrative
66 Services such job classifications as [he] the Chief State's Attorney deems
67 necessary for the operation of the division; (15) audit bills to be paid
68 from state appropriations for the expenses of the Division of Criminal
69 Justice; (16) maintain adequate accounting and budgetary records for all
70 appropriations by the state for the maintenance of the Division of
71 Criminal Justice and all other appropriations assigned by the legislature
72 or state budgetary control offices for administration by the Division of
73 Criminal Justice; (17) serve as payroll officer for the Division of Criminal
74 Justice; and (18) have such other powers and duties as are reasonably
75 necessary to administer the division and implement the purposes of this
76 chapter. [He] The Chief State's Attorney shall prepare and submit to the
77 Office of Policy and Management estimates of appropriations necessary
78 for the maintenance of the division and make recommendations with
79 respect thereto for inclusion as a separate item in the budget request of
80 the Division of Criminal Justice.

81 Sec. 3. Section 51-279b of the general statutes is repealed and the

82 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

83 (a) The Chief State's Attorney shall establish a racketeering and
 84 continuing criminal activities unit within the Division of Criminal
 85 Justice. Such unit shall be available for the investigation and prosecution
 86 of criminal matters including, but not limited to, the illegal purchase and
 87 sale of controlled substances, criminal activity by gangs, fraud,
 88 corruption, illegal gambling and the recruitment of persons to carry out
 89 such illegal activities.

90 (b) The Chief State's Attorney shall establish a bond forfeiture unit
 91 within the Division of Criminal Justice. Such unit shall be responsible
 92 for the collection, in the name of the state, and by suit when necessary,
 93 of all forfeited bonds payable to the state. Such unit may compromise
 94 and settle forfeited bonds for less than the amount thereof without
 95 regard to the expiration of any stay of forfeiture.

96 (c) The Chief State's Attorney shall develop uniform standards for the
 97 compromise and settlement of forfeited bonds. Such standards shall be
 98 applied on a state-wide basis.

99 (d) The Chief State's Attorney shall establish an elder justice unit
 100 within the Division of Criminal Justice. Such unit shall be available for
 101 the investigation and prosecution of criminal matters that involve
 102 criminal activity against elderly persons.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	51-279(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	51-279b

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	51-279(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	51-279b

Statement of Purpose:

To protect senior citizens from financial fraud schemes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HWANG, 28th Dist.; REP. BOLINSKY, 106th Dist.
REP. PIZZUTO, 71st Dist.; SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.
REP. FORTIER, 79th Dist.

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