



For Elderly Abuse Reports Federal and State Bills Would Protect Advisors

In December legislation advanced on both Federal and State levels that would protect financial advisors for required reports of elderly abuse.



On December 5, the Senate banking committee approved the Senior\$afe Act, which would protect financial professionals from litigation should they report suspected financial abuse of an older client. "I am pleased that the Banking Committee approved our commonsense plan, based on Maine's innovative Senior\$afe program, which will empower and encourage our financial service representatives to identify warning signs of common scams and help stop financial fraud targeting our seniors," said Sen.

Susan Collins, R-Maine, the bill's co-author.



On December 12, the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee approved SB 158 that also aims to fight fraud targeting older Ohioans by requiring financial professionals to report suspected elder abuse and providing them with immunity for those reports. Currently, advisors who report elderly abuse can be sued by unhappy relatives. The bill also requires education for financial professionals on the mandatory reporting requirements.

<u>Sen. Steve Wilson</u> (R-Maineville) said his bill (<u>SB 158</u>) would make financial institutions, advisers, accountants, financial planners, notaries and real estate brokers mandatory reporters for suspected elder fraud. It would also provide them

with immunity in cases where possible fraud was reported.

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Legislation (HB416) Aims to Provide Health Care Price Transparency without Legal Challenges



Legislation introduced Nov. 16 by Rep. Stephen Huffman (R-Tipp City) aims to provide Ohioans transparency into the cost of health care services while side-stepping the legal issues that a similar law has faced.

Speaking at a press conference, Huffman said his bill would repeal the current health care price transparency law that was folded into the previous General Assembly's worker's compensation budget, 131-HB52 (Hackett). That law was championed by Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood).

"This is would implement a new system that will be more workable for providers and beneficial to patients," Huffman said. "The patients and the hospitals and the physicians want health transparency."

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Attorney General Mike DeWine
Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor
Congressman Jim Renacci

Democratic Gubernatorial Primary Former State Representative Connie Pillich State Senator Joe Schiavoni Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley

Former Congresswoman Betty Sutton
Ohio Supreme Court Justice Bill O'Neill *
Former Attorney General Richard Cordray

Green Party Gubernatorial Candidate
Attorney Constance Gadell - Newton

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