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2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 9, 2013

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Introduced by Sen. DIAZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to financial exploitation of the elderly and to amend the state finance law, in relation to creating the financial exploitation outreach, education and training fund

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Section 202 of the elder law is amended by adding a new  
2     subdivision 16 to read as follows:  
3     16. TO CONDUCT AN OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM FOR FINAN-  
4     CIAL INSTITUTIONS AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION SIX OF SECTION 470.00 OF THE  
5     PENAL LAW.  
6     S 2. The elder law is amended by adding a new section 219-a to read as  
7     follows:  
8     S 219-A. FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION, OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
9     PROGRAM. 1. DEFINITIONS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM  
10    "DESIGNATED AGENCY" SHALL HAVE THE MEANING ASCRIBED TO IT UNDER SECTION  
11    TWO HUNDRED FOURTEEN OF THIS TITLE AND "FINANCIAL INSTITUTION" SHALL  
12    HAVE THE MEANING ASCRIBED TO IT IN SUBDIVISION SIX OF SECTION 470.00 OF  
13    THE PENAL LAW.  
14    2. THE DIRECTOR, WITHIN THE AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED THEREFOR, SHALL, IN  
15    CONJUNCTION WITH THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES AND THE  
16    BANKING DEPARTMENT, ESTABLISH A FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION OUTREACH, EDUCA-  
17    TION AND TRAINING PROGRAM, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "THE PROGRAM" FOR  
18    THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AN EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND TRAINING PROGRAM TO  
19    FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, TO CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS LICENSED IN THIS  
20    STATE, TO ANY PREPARER OF TAXES OPERATING IN THIS STATE AND TO ATTORNEYS  
21    LICENSED IN THIS STATE. THE PROGRAM SHALL BE A VOLUNTARY PROGRAM. THE  
22    DIRECTOR, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES  
23    AND THE BANKING DEPARTMENT, SHALL COORDINATE ACTIVITIES TO IDENTIFY AND

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 PROVIDE TRAINING TO THE INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED IN THIS  
2 SECTION.

3 3. (A) AS PART OF THE PROGRAM, THE DIRECTOR MAY AWARD GRANTS TO QUALI-  
4 FIED DESIGNATED AGENCIES TO ESTABLISH LOCAL ELDERLY EXPLOITATION  
5 OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS. QUALIFIED DESIGNATED AGENCIES  
6 SHALL WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH SUCH INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS, AND  
7 THEIR REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

8 (B) IN MAKING SUCH GRANTS, THE DIRECTOR SHALL CONSIDER:

9 (1) THE MANNER IN WHICH THE DESIGNATED AGENCY PROPOSES TO PROVIDE SUCH  
10 EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND TRAINING;

11 (2) THE CAPACITY OF THE DESIGNATED AGENCY TO COORDINATE ITS SERVICES  
12 WITH BANKING, HUMAN SERVICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC AGENCIES  
13 WHICH PROVIDE SERVICES OR ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY, INCLUDING THE LOCAL  
14 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT; AND

15 (3) ANY OTHER CRITERIA DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR TO BE APPROPRIATE.

16 4. THE PROGRAM SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS  
17 WHICH SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE:

18 (A) EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS IN PRINT, AUDIO, VISUAL,  
19 ELECTRONIC OR OTHER MEDIA;

20 (B) PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADVERTISEMENTS, MEDIA CAMPAIGNS,  
21 WORKSHOPS, MASS MAILINGS, CONFERENCES OR PRESENTATIONS; AND

22 (C) INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO REPORT KNOWN OR SUSPECTED INCIDENTS OF  
23 FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION OF THE ELDERLY, INCLUDING THE APPROPRIATE TELE-  
24 PHONE NUMBERS TO CALL AND THE TYPES OF INFORMATION THAT WOULD ASSIST THE  
25 OFFICE WITH ITS INVESTIGATION OF SUCH REPORTS.

26 5. THE DIRECTOR SHALL CONVENE AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MADE UP OF AT  
27 LEAST TEN, BUT NO MORE THAN TWENTY MEMBERS TO ADVISE THE DIRECTOR AND  
28 MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ASPECTS OF DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THE  
29 PROGRAM. MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE  
30 LIMITED TO: AT LEAST THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATEWIDE SENIOR ADVOCA-  
31 CY ORGANIZATIONS, AT LEAST ONE ATTORNEY WHOSE PRACTICE CONCENTRATES IN  
32 ELDER LAW OR AN INDIVIDUAL ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE ELDER LAW SECTION OF  
33 THE NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION, AT LEAST ONE BANKER OR A REPRESEN-  
34 TATIVE OF AN ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING BANKERS, AT LEAST ONE CERTIFIED  
35 PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT OR A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING  
36 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING PROTEC-  
37 TIVE SERVICE AGENCIES FOR ADULTS, AND AT LEAST TWO LAW ENFORCEMENT  
38 REPRESENTATIVES.

39 S 3. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 99-u to  
40 read as follows:

41 S 99-U. FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION, OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND.

42 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED IN THE JOINT CUSTODY OF THE COMPTROLLER  
43 AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF BANKS A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND TO BE KNOWN AS  
44 THE FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION, OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND.

45 2. THE FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION, OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND  
46 SHALL CONSIST OF ALL MONEYS, APPROPRIATED THERETO, AND ALL OTHER FEES,  
47 FINES, GRANTS, BEQUESTS OR OTHER MONIES CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED THERETO  
48 FROM ANY OTHER FUND OR SOURCE.

49 3. THE MONEYS OF THE FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION, OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND  
50 TRAINING FUND SHALL BE DISBURSED BY THE COMPTROLLER TO THE STATE OFFICE  
51 FOR THE AGING FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS  
52 TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN AND TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN-A OF THE ELDER LAW.

53 S 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
54 have become a law.