



THE ELDER JUSTICE COALITION

"A NATIONAL ADVOCACY VOICE SUPPORTING ELDER JUSTICE IN AMERICA"

November 10, 2009 Update

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A National Advocacy Voice for Elder Justice in America

592 Member Coalition

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Elder Justice and Health Care Reform

The House passage of its health care reform bill, the Affordable Health Care for America Act (H.R.3962), ensures that the process to achieve health care reform is moving forward. The process continues to have possible implications for elder justice.

As reported earlier, the health care reform bill passed by the Senate Finance Committee does include S.795, the Elder Justice Act. This bill is being merged with another bill passed by the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee (HELP), which did not include elder justice. The Elder Justice Coalition back on October 20th wrote letters to the key Senators involved in health care reform, including Majority Leader Harry Reid, urging that it be included in the merged bill. We remain confident that this will occur and the full Senate could begin its consideration of health care reform next week. [CLICK HERE](#) for an article released today from the Las Vegas Sun related to elder justice.

The House bill does not include the Elder Justice Act. However, a House-Senate conference committee is expected to meet to work out differences between the health care reform bills. The Coalition has been in communication with House leadership to urge that they accept elder justice as part of the final health care reform bill. The process is not expected to be completed until December at the earliest.

In the meantime, the Patient Safety and Abuse Prevention Act, the criminal background check language, is now included in both the House passed and the Senate Finance Committee reform bills. This means its prospects for being included in a final bill are good. The bill authored by Senator Kohl (WI) was introduced as an amendment on the Senate side by Senator Stabenow (MI) and on the House side by Representative Schakowsky (IL.)

What You Can Do to Help!

Below is a list of co-sponsors to H.R. 2006, the House Elder Justice Act. If your House member is included on this list, please contact them this week with a simple message for them to communicate to Speaker Nancy Pelosi:

“Please include elder justice in the final health care bill that goes to the President. For seniors, health care reform must include being free from abuse, neglect and exploitation.”

Sponsor: Rep. Pete King [NY-3]

Rep Altmire, Jason [PA-4]

Rep Baldwin, Tammy [WI-2]

Rep Berkley, Shelley [NV-1]

Rep Bishop, Timothy H. [NY-1]
Rep Blumenauer, Earl [OR-3]
Rep Carnahan, Russ [MO-3]
Rep Carson, Andre [IN-7]
Rep Chandler, Ben [KY-6]
Rep Cohen, Steve [TN-9]
Rep Courtney, Joe [CT-2]
Rep Crowley, Joseph [NY-7]
Rep Davis, Artur [AL-7]
Rep Davis, Danny K. [IL-7]
Rep DeGette, Diana [CO-1]
Rep Delahunt, Bill [MA-10]
Rep Doggett, Lloyd [TX-25]
Rep Donnelly, Joe [IN-2]
Rep Edwards, Donna F. [MD-4]
Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51]
Rep Giffords, Gabrielle [AZ-8]
Rep Gonzalez, Charles A. [TX-20]
Rep Grayson, Alan [FL-8]
Rep Green, Gene [TX-29]
Rep Hastings, Alcee L. [FL-23]
Rep Honda, Michael M. [CA-15]
Rep Israel, Steve [NY-2]
Rep Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [GA-4]
Rep Kaptur, Marcy [OH-9]
Rep Kennedy, Patrick J. [RI-1]
Rep Kildee, Dale E. [MI-5]
Rep Kind, Ron [WI-3]
Rep Kratovil, Frank, Jr. [MD-1]
Rep Kucinich, Dennis J. [OH-10]
Rep LaTourette, Steven C. [OH-14]
Rep Lofgren, Zoe [CA-16]
Rep Maloney, Carolyn B. [NY-14]
Rep Markey, Edward J. [MA-7]
Rep McHugh, John M. [NY-23]
Rep McIntyre, Mike [NC-7]
Rep Michaud, Michael H. [ME-2]
Rep Miller, Candice S. [MI-10]
Rep Nadler, Jerrold [NY-8]
Rep Napolitano, Grace F. [CA-38]
Rep Oberstar, James L. [MN-8]
Rep Payne, Donald M. [NJ-10]
Rep Sanchez, Linda T. [CA-39]
Rep Sarbanes, John P. [MD-3]
Rep Schakowsky, Janice D. [IL-9]
Rep Schwartz, Allyson Y. [PA-13]
Rep Serrano, Jose E. [NY-16]
Rep Sestak, Joe [PA-7]
Rep Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [FL-20]
Rep Woolsey, Lynn C. [CA-6]
Rep Wu, David [OR-1]
Rep Yarmuth, John A. [KY-3]

If your House member is not yet a co-sponsor, please communicate with them to urge they sign onto the bill.

If you need other resources or have questions, please contact Shannon Donahue at elderjustice@verizon.net.