

# Elder Justice Policy Highlights

MARCH 2024 – AUGUST 2024

The NCEA's semiannual elder justice policy compilation surveys national and state legislation from March 2024 through August 2024. This update includes federal and state elder justice legislative actions. Policy highlights are classified below as Federal Activity, Enacted Legislation, and Introduced Legislation.

## Topic Index

The following themes were identified:

Caregiving and In-home Services: [Illinois H.R. 506](#), [Oregon H.B. 4129](#)

COVID-19: [New York A.B. 8053](#)

Criminal Penalties: [Massachusetts S.B. 1024](#), [New York S.B. 5515](#), [Pennsylvania H.B. 1760](#), [Tennessee S.B. 2147](#), [Utah H.B. 500](#)

Dementia: [Pennsylvania H.B. 2400](#)

Education and Consumer Information: [New York S.B. 1730](#)

Financial Exploitation: [California S.B. 278](#), [H.R. 8023](#), [S. 4371](#), [Guam 243-37](#), [Illinois S.B. 3085](#), [Illinois S.B. 3804](#), [Kansas H.B. 2562](#), [Massachusetts H.B. 4124](#), [Tennessee H.B. 1248](#), [Virginia H.B. 692](#), [Wisconsin S.B. 628](#)

General: [S. 4776](#), [Alabama H.B. 60](#), [California A.B. 2800](#), [New Jersey A.B. 4267](#), [Wyoming H.B. 26](#), [Wyoming S.B. 45](#)

Guardianship: [S. 4283](#)

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Legal Services: [H.R. 8588](#)

Long-Term Care/Healthcare Facilities:

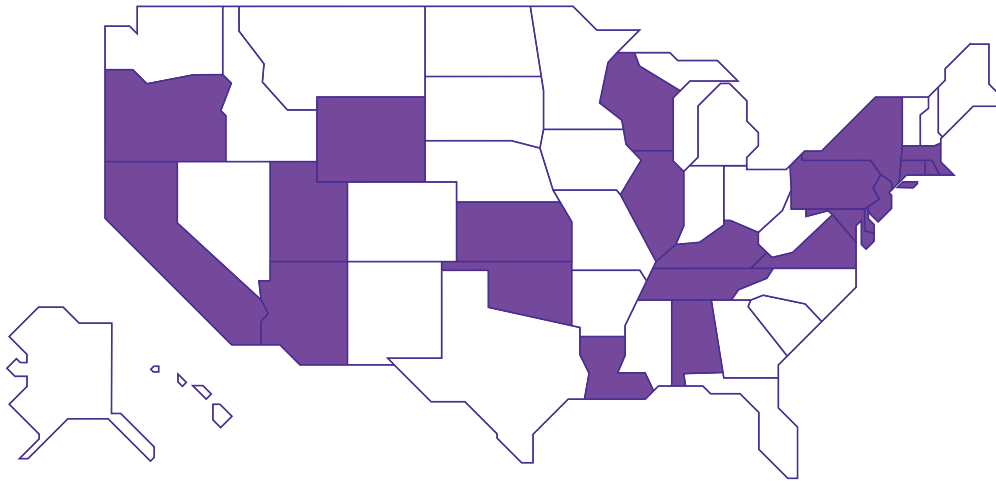
[H.R. 7929](#), [S. 4087](#), [S. 4578](#), [S. 4743](#), [Arizona H.B. 2764](#), [California A.B. 2773](#), [Connecticut H.B. 5046](#), [Illinois S.B. 3559](#), [Illinois H.B. 4724](#), [Illinois H.B. 5352](#), [Kentucky S.B. 145](#), [Louisiana S.B. 155](#), [Maryland S.B. 712](#), [Massachusetts H.B. 615](#), [Massachusetts H.B. 623](#), [Massachusetts H.B. 655](#), [Massachusetts H.B. 5033](#), [New Jersey S.B. 3019](#), [New York S.B. 9580](#), [Rhode Island Executive Order 24-07](#), [Rhode Island S.B. 2263](#)

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Multidisciplinary/Workgroups: [Delaware H.B. 298](#), [New York S.B. 9138](#), [Oklahoma H.B. 3317](#)

Social Isolation: [H.R. 8331](#), [New York A.B. 10497](#)



Have questions or want to share some news or legislation with us?



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## New Federal Actions

**Federal Funding for Elder Justice Programs:** Released in March, President Biden’s 2025 fiscal year (FY) budget maintained FY24 funding levels for most elder justice programs other than state Adult Protective Services (APS) grants, which increased from \$15 million to \$30 million. An additional \$3 billion in grants was allocated to provide counseling and emergency assistance to older adults at risk of homelessness. In July, the House Appropriations Committee passed the **FY25 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (LHHS Act)**, which funds programs including the Older Americans Act elder justice programs. In August, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed the **FY25 LHHS Act**. A final appropriations bill, or a continuing resolution, must be signed into law to continue funding past October 1, 2024.

**Final Rules on Nursing Home Reform, Increasing Access to High-Quality Care and Supporting Caregivers:** In April 2024, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued three final rules to support family caregivers, boost compensation and job quality for care workers, expand and improve care options, and improve the safety and quality of care in nursing homes. The “Minimum Staffing Standards for Nursing Homes” rule establishes the first national minimum staffing requirements to improve quality of care. The “Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services” rule creates national standards to improve access to home and community-based services for Medicaid recipients. The “Managed Care Rule” will improve access to care, accountability, and transparency, for Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in a managed care plan.

**Final Rule: Federal Regulations for APS Programs:** In May 2024, the Administration for Community Living published a final rule to establish the first-ever federal regulations for APS. The regulations, which took effect on June 7, 2024, establish national standards for the operation of APS programs which include standard definitions and a tiered assessment system for APS cases, standard methods for reporting, an emphasis on person-directedness and least-restrictive alternatives, conflict of interest policies, and increased collaborative efforts.

# Enacted Legislation

## STATES

### Alabama

#### Alabama H.B. 60

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Approved by the Governor on May 16, 2024, the Alabama Adults with Disabilities Protection Act creates the crimes of abuse and neglect of an adult with a disability in the first, second, and third degrees; financial exploitation of an adult with a disability in the first, second, and third degrees; to provide criminal penalties; and to establish a statute of limitation.

### Arizona

#### Arizona H.B. 2764

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Enacted on April 8, 2024, this law aims to hold long-term care facilities accountable for resident safety. It requires the Arizona Department of Health Services to establish minimum training standards for staff working with residents with “memory care” issues, and implements stricter standards and oversight for facilities, particularly in memory care services, to ensure public health, safety, and welfare.

### Connecticut

#### Connecticut H.B. 5046

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Approved by the Governor on June 4, 2024, this law increases oversight and management of long-term care facilities, including prohibiting nursing homes from placing new residents in a room with more than two beds and updating rules about noncompliance with state statutes and federal law.

### Kansas

#### Kansas H.B. 2562

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Enacted on April 19, 2024, the Protect Vulnerable Adults from Financial Exploitation Act requires a broker-dealer or investment adviser to report suspected financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult to designated protective agencies. The measure also allows a broker-dealer or investment adviser to delay a transaction from a vulnerable adult’s account. A broker-dealer or investment adviser acting in good faith is immune from administrative and civil liability. The measure creates a penalty for failing to make a report required under this Act.

### Kentucky

#### Kentucky S.B. 145

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Approved by the Governor on March 29, 2024, this measure allows health facilities or health care providers enrolled in Medicaid to submit a current or prospective employee to a check of the child abuse and neglect or adult abuse registries. This law also requires the cabinet to establish a process for notifying a vulnerable adult services provider if a prospective or current employee has appealed a substantiated finding of abuse.

### Louisiana

#### Louisiana S.B. 155

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Approved by the Governor on May 28, 2024, this legislation makes changes to the Nursing Home Early Voting Program by extending the timeframe in which a resident of a nursing home can vote, from one week to at least two weeks prior to the first day of early voting through the last day for early voting.

## Maryland

**Maryland S.B. 712**

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Approved by the Governor on May 16, 2024, this legislation makes changes to the responsible party and timeline for providing notifications about deficiencies and enforcement actions for nursing homes.

## Massachusetts

**Massachusetts H.B. 5033**

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Enacted on September 6, 2024, this legislation includes multiple actions to improve quality and oversight of long-term care (LTC) facilities. It creates funding for LTC workforce training grant programs and specialized care units in skilled nursing facilities. It also provides updated specifications for obtaining a license to operate a facility. As part of this measure, the attorney general may file a civil action against a person who commits abuse or neglect of a resident, or causes another person to commit abuse or neglect. The measure also includes actions to improve disease outbreak response, help residents engage with others, prevent discrimination against LGBTQI residents and residents living with HIV, analyze costs, and create task forces to study specific areas of LTC.

## Oklahoma

**Oklahoma H.B. 3317**

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Approved by the Governor on April 23, 2024, this measure requires that at least one multidisciplinary elderly and vulnerable adult abuse team member, or those conducting investigations and interviews of elder or vulnerable adult abuse victims, must complete dementia-specific training on Alzheimer's and dementia.

## Oregon

**Oregon H.B. 4129**

[View Online](#)

Enacted on March 28, 2024, this legislation relates to agency rules for in-home service providers supplying personal care services for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and individuals with behavioral health needs. These rules include the timely reporting of any allegation of abuse or financial exploitation involving an individual or a direct support worker and funding provisions for aging and disability programs.

## Pennsylvania

**Pennsylvania H.B. 1760**

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Approved by the Governor on July 1, 2024, this law ensures that individuals convicted of elder abuse resulting in death of the victim are unable to acquire the victim's property or benefits.

## Rhode Island

**RI Executive Order 24-07**

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Taking effect on March 29, 2024, this executive order extended a previous executive order that declared a nursing home state of emergency and suspended the nursing home minimum staffing law.

**Rhode Island S.B. 2263**

[View Online](#)

Approved by the Governor on June 17, 2024, this legislation permits the use of electronic monitoring of a resident's room or private living unit within a nursing home or assisted living facility. The measure provides procedures for obtaining consent.

## Tennessee

**Tennessee H.B. 1248**

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Enacted on May 28, 2024, this measure authorizes financial service providers to

report suspected financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's (TBI) elder financial reporting mechanism. The financial service provider may offer the adult the option to keep a list of individuals to contact in the case of suspected financial exploitation and may also provide relevant records to the TBI.

#### **Tennessee S.B. 2147**

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Enacted on May 1, 2024, this legislation states that a surviving spouse who has been found by the court to have procured a marriage to a vulnerable adult as part of a scheme to commit abuse or theft, or has obtained the marriage by fraud, duress, or undue influence, is not entitled to certain rights or benefits through the marriage. The measure also provides that a vulnerable adult has a right of recovery in a civil action for compensatory damages for abuse or neglect, sexual abuse, or financial exploitation by a caretaker.

### **Utah**

#### **Utah H.B. 500**

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Enacted on March 13, 2024, this law makes changes to the Real Estate Code and the Real Estate Licensing and Practices Act including enhancing the penalty for violations involving vulnerable adults. The measure creates a civil penalty of \$10,000 for each violation, if the person knew or should have known that the property owner was a vulnerable adult.

### **Virginia**

#### **Virginia H.B. 692**

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Enacted on April 5, 2024, this legislation allows a financial institution to permit a vulnerable adult to provide a list of trusted persons who can be contacted in the case of suspected financial exploitation. The bill also permits a financial institution to conduct training for staff on how to identify and

report financial exploitation. The measure states that financial institutions and staff that have received training are not liable in any civil or administrative proceeding for disclosing the suspected financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult if the disclosure was made in good faith.

#### **Virginia H.B. 769**

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Approved on April 4, 2024, this measure expands the types of crimes that a multi-jurisdiction grand jury may investigate. These include financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult, financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult by an agent, and abuse and neglect of a vulnerable adult.

### **Wisconsin**

#### **Wisconsin S.B. 628**

[View Online](#)

Enacted on March 22, 2024, this legislation allows financial service providers to refuse or delay financial transactions when financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult is suspected or when an elder-adult-at-risk agency, adult-at-risk agency, or law enforcement agency provides information about suspected financial exploitation. In addition, the measure allows a financial service provider to refuse to accept a power of attorney of a vulnerable adult if exploitation is suspected. The bill also provides a process for a financial service provider to create a list of persons that a vulnerable adult authorizes to be contacted if exploitation is suspected. The legislation provides immunity from liability for financial service providers.

### **Wyoming**

#### **Wyoming H.B. 26**

[View Online](#)

Enacted on March 4, 2024, this measure extends the maximum effective period of emergency protective services for a vulnerable adult as ordered by the court from 72 hours to 14 days.

## Wyoming S.B. 45

[View Online](#)

Approved by the Governor on March 7, 2024, this measure allows exploited vulnerable adults to have a civil cause of action against the person who exploited them. The vulnerable adult may recover actual damages, punitive damages, and reasonable attorney's fees for the exploitation.

## Introduced Legislation

### NATIONAL

#### H.R. 7929

[View Online](#)

Introduced on April 10, 2024, the Nursing Home Workforce Support and Expansion Act of 2024 would provide funding for grants to states to support workers in post-acute and long-term care settings. The funds must be used to provide wage subsidies, student loan repayment or tuition assistance, affordable and accessible childcare, and transportation assistance in accordance with certain eligibility requirements, and may be used for other purposes as detailed in the bill.

#### H.R. 8023

[View Online](#)

Introduced on April 16, 2024, the Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act would require the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to increase awareness of, and report on, scams impacting older adults. The FTC would report on the number and types of scams that disproportionately impact older adults during emergencies, provide policy recommendations, and disseminate the findings.

#### H.R. 8331

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Introduced on May 8, 2024, the Essential Caregivers Act would require long-term care facilities to allow essential caregivers access during any period in which visitation

## TERRITORIES

### Guam

#### Guam 243-37

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Enacted on July 10, 2024, this legislation removes the statute of limitations for initiating legal proceedings in cases involving the financial and property exploitation of an elderly person or individual with disability.

is restricted by order of a Federal, State, or local authority. The measure was referred to the House Subcommittee on Health on May 17, 2024.

#### H.R. 8588

[View Online](#)

Introduced on May 31, 2024, the Linking Seniors to Needed Legal Services Act would provide grants to develop medical-legal partnerships to establish, improve, or maintain linkages between health and social services for vulnerable elders in healthcare settings.

#### S. 4087

[View Online](#)

Introduced on April 9, 2024, the Fairness in Nursing Home Arbitration Act would prohibit skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities and from using pre-dispute arbitration agreements from or on behalf of any resident, whether the agreement is made before, during, or after the resident's admission to the facility. This rule would also apply to home and community-based services as specified in the measure.

#### S. 4283

[View Online](#)

Introduced on May 8, 2024, the Alternatives to Guardianship Education Act would provide grants to provide education for health care workers, educators, family members, court workers, and court-related personnel on

guardianship alternatives for older adults and people with disabilities.

#### **S. 4371**

[View Online](#)

Introduced on May 21, 2024, the Empowering States to Protect Seniors from Bad Actors Act would help protect senior investors. It would create a new grant program to support states in the investigation and prosecution of senior financial fraud cases.

#### **S. 4578**

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Introduced on June 18, 2024, the Long-Term Care Transparency Act would improve transparency and data collection of reports from states' long-term care ombudsmen programs.

#### **S. 4743**

[View Online](#)

Introduced on July 23, 2024, the Strengthening Advocacy for Long-Term Care Residents Act would ensure the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program has the resources and leadership to safeguard residents in long-term care facilities.

#### **S. 4776**

[View Online](#)

Introduced on July 25, 2024, by a bipartisan working group of Senators, the Older Americans Act (OAA) Reauthorization Act of 2024 renews the OAA for four years and add elder abuse training to the National Family Caregiver Support Program, establish a clearing house for legal assistance, request a 2025 White House Conference on Aging, and modernize the OAA elder justice efforts.

## **STATES**

### **California**

#### **California S.B. 278**

[View Online](#)

Enrolled and presented to the Governor on September 9, 2024, this bill would require financial institutions to establish an

emergency financial contact program for elder and dependent adult account holders. The purpose of the program is to obtain emergency contacts that can be notified if financial exploitation is suspected. The mandated reporter would be required to delay any suspicious transaction by at least 3 business days. The bill provides immunity from administrative, civil, or other liability.

#### **California A.B. 2773**

[View Online](#)

Passed by the Assembly on May 22, 2024 and by the Senate on August 26, 2024, this measure would make changes to the private right of action in cases against a skilled nursing facility or residential care facility, by lowering the burden of proof to recover compensatory damages and attorney's fees and costs in cases when a defendant is found to have intentionally destroyed or altered evidence related to the case. The measure is awaiting the Governor's signature.

#### **California A.B. 2800**

[View Online](#)

This measure would change the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act by expanding the definition of neglect and physical abuse. Neglect would also include the failure to implement a treatment plan and the failure to provide or arrange for services necessary for physical, mental, or emotional health and carelessness that produces or could reasonably be expected to result in serious physical injury, mental suffering, or death. Physical abuse would include use of a physical or chemical restraint or psychotropic medication for discipline or convenience when not required to treat the resident's medical symptoms and administered by a long-term health care facility or residential care facility for the elderly. The bill was re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care on April 1, 2024.

## Delaware

### Delaware H.B. 298

[View Online](#)

Passed by the House on June 11, 2024 and by the Senate on June 30, 2024, this measure would create the Vulnerable Adult Populations Commission to improve the State's response to elder abuse. Activities conducted by the committee would include studying court and law enforcement protocols related to elder abuse, assisting with coordination among various agencies and the court system to benefit victims, and promoting prevention, intervention, and service. The commission would also recommend standards to state agencies and departments and provide feedback on elder abuse related legislation.

## Illinois

### Illinois H.R. 506

[View Online](#)

This bill urges the passage of supportive policies for family caregivers such as increased funding for adult programs and resources for caregivers, including family caregivers in their loved one's care, hospital discharge, planning, education, and training, increasing access to options and eligibility for care at home, providing job improvement initiatives to attract and retain direct care workers, and financial relief for family caregivers. A resolution for this bill was adopted by the House on May 3, 2024.

### Illinois S.B. 3085

[View Online](#)

This measure would modify current law regarding financial exploitation of older and disabled adults. The measure enhances the penalties for theft if the victim is 60 years of age or older, or a person with a disability, or if the offense was committed in a nursing home, an assisted living facility, or a supportive living facility. Lastly, theft, theft by deception, and financial exploitation of an

elderly person or a person with a disability would be considered a Class X felony if the value of the property stolen or illegally obtained exceeds \$100,000. In addition, a person who commits theft of an older or disabled adult may be tried in any county in which any part of the assets that the person obtained control over are held. The measure was re-referred to the Senate Assignments Committee on March 15, 2024.

### Illinois S.B. 3559

[View Online](#)

This measure states that a nursing home must not retaliate against a resident if the resident complains, discloses, or threatens to disclose to a supervisor, or any other person a practice implemented by the facility that the resident believes is in violation of a rule, or that the resident believes to be problematic. In addition, a nursing home must not retaliate against a resident if the resident seeks assistance to transition to another setting or becomes a member of a resident council or similar organization. The bill was referred to the Senate Assignments Committee on June 26, 2024.

### Illinois S.B. 3804

[View Online](#)

This bill would amend the Adult Protective Services Act by expanding the list of mandated reporters to include broker-dealers and officers and employees of financial institutions. The measure also provides a definition for financial exploitation which includes financial institutions, broker-dealers, or investment advisors assisting in the financial exploitation of an older adult. The bill was re-referred to the Senate Assignments Committee on April 19, 2024.

### Illinois H.B. 4724

[View Online](#)

Amended and re-referred to the House Rules Committee on April 19, 2024, this measure would require owners of nursing homes to



submit a transition plan when a change of ownership occurs and require the transition plan to include a detailed explanation of how resident care and appropriate staffing levels shall be maintained until the license has been obtained and the transfer of facility occurs. There are penalties if a transition plan is not provided and if residents are not provided adequate care during the change of ownership process.

### **Illinois H.B. 5352**

[View Online](#)

This bill would require administrators of facilities licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act and the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Act to ensure that all facility staff receive annual in-service training to prevent retaliation against patients and residents. The training manual would be created and maintained by the State Long-term Care Ombudsman Office, and include information about the resident's right to file complaints in the event of retaliation, examples of employee retaliation against a resident, and methods of preventing employee retaliation and alleviating a resident's fear of retaliation. The measure was re-referred to the House Rules Committee on April 5, 2024.

## **Massachusetts**

### **Massachusetts H.B. 615**

[View Online](#)

This legislation would change nursing home requirements regarding staff, preventing social isolation, and resident rooms. Nursing homes would be required to provide sufficient nursing personnel to meet resident nursing care needs. Facilities would be required to adopt and implement written policies to provide sufficient staff and technology to prevent social isolation. Facilities would also be required to follow requirements for resident rooms such as

a maximum number of beds and certain accessibility standards. Failure to meet these requirements would result in administrative penalties and possibly adverse licensure action. The measure was accompanied by a study order by the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs on April 29, 2024.

### **Massachusetts H.B. 621**

[View Online](#)

This measure would outline the definitions and requirements for mandated reporters of elder abuse as well as training for mandated reporters to recognize and report suspected elder abuse or neglect. The measure accompanied a study order on April 29, 2024.

### **Massachusetts H.B. 623**

[View Online](#)

This measure would modify regulations in nursing homes. It would ensure regulations governing staffing ratios in nursing homes for direct care staff meet federal quality standards. It would also require reasonable efforts to place residents in a community setting with home and community-based supports and services. The measure prohibits renovation construction with resident rooms that accommodate more than two residents and requires a reasonable effort be made to construct single rooms for residents. When there is an ownership change of a nursing home, the new owner would be required to submit a written plan for providing rooms that do not exceed two residents. Nursing homes would also be required to establish a Human Rights Committee which would receive and investigate complaints affecting the rights of residents. The measure accompanied a study order in the House on April 29, 2024.

### **Massachusetts H.B. 655**

[View Online](#)

This measure would put into place protections for residents of nursing homes. Nursing homes would be required to submit a plan demonstrating how the facility will

treat all residents with dignity. The plan would need to demonstrate how the facility will guarantee single occupancy rooms to all residents and a restroom for each room. Residents would not be compelled to live in a room with a roommate with the exceptions of specific circumstances. The measure would prohibit three or more residents per room and a semi-private room would need to meet specific standards. Residents would also be given the option of in-room dining at no additional charge. Facilities that fail to meet these requirements would be fined. The measure accompanied a study order in the House on April 29, 2024.

**Massachusetts S.B. 1024** [View Online](#)

This measure would provide protections against sexual assault of vulnerable adults that is committed by mandated reporters, persons in a position of trust, and providers of transportation. The measure states that these acts shall be punished by imprisonment, as specified in the bill. Consent of the vulnerable adult to such acts would not constitute a defense or excuse. The definition of vulnerable adult in the bill specifically includes residents of long-term care facilities. The bill would also add “sexual assault of vulnerable adults” to the definition of “sex offense.” The measure accompanied a study order in the Senate on May 2, 2024.

**Massachusetts H.B. 4124** [View Online](#)

This bill would allow certain employees of financial institutions who suspect financial exploitation to report the incidents and delay transactions in connection with an account of a vulnerable adult. The measure provides immunity from any administrative or civil liability for employees acting in good faith. The bill was reported favorably and referred to the committee on House Ways and Means on April 4, 2024.

## New Jersey

**New Jersey S.B. 3019** [View Online](#)

Introduced on April 8, 2024, this bill would require nursing homes participating in Medicaid with an overall rating of one star on the CMS Five-Star Quality Rating System, to develop and implement a corrective action plan to improve their rating as a condition of receiving reimbursement.

**New Jersey A.B. 4267** [View Online](#)

Introduced on May 2, 2024, this bill would establish a specific civil action by a disabled minor or disabled adult for injury resulting from abuse, neglect, exploitation, or bullying. Under this measure, bullying of the adult would constitute grounds for investigation by adult protective services and be reported to law enforcement. The bill defines bullying as “any gesture, any written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication that causes a reasonable person to fear for his safety or fear damage to his property.” Health care providers and first responders would be required to report bullying, in addition to abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and other persons could report such acts. The bill provides specific penalties.

## New York

**New York S.B. 1730** [View Online](#)

Passed by the Senate on March 27, 2024, this bill would require the state’s Office for the Aging to develop and provide elder abuse prevention training for employees of senior centers and programs that contract with the Office for the Aging and the Office of Children and Family Services. Senior centers would be required to hold at least two educational sessions per year.

### **New York S.B. 5515**

[View Online](#)

Advanced to a third reading in the Senate on Mar 14, 2024, this bill would prohibit an individual convicted of a crime involving elder abuse from inheriting the elder's estate. The measure was submitted to the Senate Rules Committee on June 7, 2024.

### **New York A.B. 7467**

[View Online](#)

This bill would require informed consent and notice to family members before psychotropic medication could be prescribed to patients in nursing homes or adult care facilities. An emergency order for psychotropic medication would be allowed when necessary to protect the life, health, or safety of a patient or others in the nursing home. This bill was amended on the third reading by the Assembly on May 23, 2024.

### **New York A.B. 8053**

[View Online](#)

Introduced in September 2023 and amended in Assembly Committee on Governmental Operations on June 4, 2024, this bill would establish a COVID-19 Pandemic Response Study Commission to study the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The commission would study the response by State and local governments, public entities, health care institutions and providers, educational institutions, other institutions and entities, and the public, including, but not limited to hospitals, nursing homes, jails, prisons, other secure facilities and other congregate care settings.

### **New York S.B. 9138**

[View Online](#)

Introduced on April 30, 2024, this measure would establish the interagency elder justice task force consisting of representatives of state agencies whose work involves elder justice to improve collaboration and

develop overarching strategies, systems, and programs with the goal of protecting older adults from abuse and mistreatment. The measure was passed by the Senate on June 4, 2024.

### **New York S.B. 9580**

[View Online](#)

Introduced on May 16, 2024, this measure would establish staffing standards for physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, respiratory therapists, respiratory therapy technicians, and recreational therapists at nursing homes.

### **New York A.B. 10497**

[View Online](#)

Introduced on May 29, 2024, this measure would require nursing homes to provide access to essential caregivers when visitation is restricted due to a federal, state, or local order.

## **Pennsylvania**

### **Pennsylvania H.B. 2400**

[View Online](#)

Passed by the House on June 27, 2024, the Alzheimer's, Dementia and Related Disorders Act would create a Committee and Office within the State's Department of Aging dedicated to implementing the Pennsylvania State Plan for Alzheimer's, Dementia and Related Disorders and other collaborative efforts to support individuals affected by these conditions. The Committee would implement the State plan and assess needs, while the Office would oversee these efforts and provide strategic direction to the Committee and conduct other tasks to help improve efforts to support those affected by dementia. The measure was referred to the Senate Aging and Youth Committee on July 12, 2024.

## Legislation Tracked in Specific Topic Areas

The following links provide additional information on legislative activity relevant to guardianship and financial exploitation.

**Guardianship:** [American Bar Association, Commission on Law and Aging](#)

**Independent Financial Advisors and Firms:** [The Financial Services Institute \(FSI\)](#) tracks and supports legislation in each state that provides protection and mandated reporting for independent financial advisors and firms when they suspect financial exploitation, as well as the ability to temporarily hold account transactions and support investigation efforts.

**Financial Exploitation:** [National Conference of State Legislatures](#)



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