

## HR 448

Elder Abuse Victims Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Jan 9, 2009

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Feb 12, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/448>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Sestak, Joe [D-PA-7]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Jan 9, 2009
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-3]	R · NY		Jan 9, 2009
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Jan 9, 2009
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Feb 9, 2009
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Feb 10, 2009

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 9, 2009
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 12, 2009

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 S 1821	Related bill	Oct 21, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Elder Abuse Victims Act of 2009 - **Title I: Elder Abuse Victims** - (Sec. 101) Directs the Attorney General to: (1) study and report to Congress on state laws and practices relating to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and (2) develop objectives, priorities, policies, and a long-term plan for elder justice programs and activities.

Directs the Comptroller General to review programs and initiatives in the federal criminal justice system relevant to elder justice and report to Congress on such programs and initiatives with recommendations to improve elder justice in the United States.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2009-FY2015.

(Sec. 102) Authorizes the Attorney General to award victim advocacy grants for study of the special needs of victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including related pilot programs. Authorizes appropriations for FY2009-FY2015.

(Sec. 103) Directs the Attorney General to award grants to eligible entities to provide training, technical assistance, policy development, multidisciplinary coordination, and other types of support to local prosecutors and courts handling elder justice-related cases, funding in particular: (1) specially designated elder justice positions or units in local prosecutors' offices and local courts; and (2) the creation of a Center for the Prosecution of Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation to advise and support local prosecutors and courts nationwide in the pursuit of such cases.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2009-FY2015.

(Sec. 104) Directs the Attorney General to award similar grants to eligible entities to provide support to state prosecutors and courts, employees of state Attorneys General, and Medicaid Fraud Control Units handling elder justice-related matters.

Authorizes use of such grants to: (1) establish specially designated elder justice positions or units in state prosecutors' offices and state courts; and (2) create a position to coordinate elder justice-related cases, training, technical assistance, and policy development for state prosecutors and courts.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2009-FY2015.

(Sec. 105) Directs the Attorney General to award similar grants to eligible entities to provide support to police, sheriffs, detectives, public safety officers, corrections personnel, and other first responders who handle elder justice-related matters to fund specially designated elder justice positions or units designed to support first responders in elder justice matters.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2009-FY2015.

(Sec. 106) Directs the Attorney General to: (1) require each recipient to use a portion of grant funds to conduct a validated evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities carried out through the grant; or (2) use a portion of funds under this title to assist an eligible entity to conduct such an evaluation.

Prescribes general requirements for grant applications and their review and selection.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2009-FY2015.

(Sec. 107) Defines "eligible entity" as a state or local government agency, Indian tribe or tribal organization, or any other

public or nonprofit private entity that is engaged in and has expertise in issues relating to elder justice or a field necessary to promote elder justice efforts.

**Title II: Elder Serve Victim Grant Programs** - (Sec. 201) Directs the Attorney General, acting through the Director of the Office of Victims of Crime of the Department of Justice (DOJ), to carry out a three-year Elder Serve Victim program to provide grants to eligible entities (crime victim assistance programs receiving grants under the Victims of Crime Act of 1984) to establish programs to facilitate and coordinate programs for victims of elder abuse.

Requires a recipient to use its grant to establish an Emergency Crisis Response Team program, which shall: (1) include immediate, short-term emergency services, including shelter, care services, food, clothing, transportation to medical or legal appointments; and (2) provide other appropriate services to victims of elder abuse.

Limits short-term housing for such victims to 30 days.

Requires a grant recipient also to establish counseling, mental health screening, emergency legal advocacy, job placement assistance, bereavement counseling, and other appropriate service programs.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2009-FY2011.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Feb 12, 2009:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Feb 11, 2009:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H1197)
- **Feb 11, 2009:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 397 - 25 (Roll no. 62). (text: CR 2/10/2009 H1120-1122)
- **Feb 11, 2009:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 397 - 25 (Roll no. 62). (text: CR 2/10/2009 H1120-1122)
- **Feb 11, 2009:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Feb 10, 2009:** Mr. Johnson (GA) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Feb 10, 2009:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1120-1123)
- **Feb 10, 2009:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 448.
- **Feb 10, 2009:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Feb 9, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.