

Federal Legislative Update for Senior Issues (B) Task Force
2022 Interim In Lieu of the Spring National Meeting
17 March 2022

The FY 2022 Omnibus legislation, which funds the government through Sept. 30, 2022, was passed by the House and Senate and signed into law by the president last week.

SHIP funding: The bill maintains SHIP funding at \$57,115,000 for FY 2022.

Senior Protections: The FY 2022 Omnibus bill includes provisions directed at protecting seniors by creating the **Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group** and the **Senior Fraud Advisory Office** within the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to improve interagency coordination on efforts to protect seniors from falling victim to fraud and scam attempts.

The **Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group** will bring together relevant government agencies, consumer advocates, and industry representatives to collect and develop model educational materials for retailers, financial institutions, and wire transfer companies to use in preventing scams on seniors.

The Group is to be comprised of:

- (1) The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.
- (2) The Secretary of the Treasury.
- (3) The Attorney General.
- (4) The Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

(5) Representatives from each of the following sectors, including trade associations, to be selected by the Federal Trade Commission:

(A) Retail.

(B) Gift cards.

(C) Telecommunications.

(D) Wire-transfer services.

(E) Senior peer advocates.

(F) Consumer advocacy organizations with efforts focused on preventing seniors from becoming the victims of scams.

(G) Financial services, including institutions that engage in digital currency.

(H) Prepaid cards.

(6) A member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

(7) A prudential regulator, as defined in section 1002 of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5481).

(8) The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

(9) Any other Federal, State, or local agency, industry representative, consumer advocate, or entity, as determined by the Federal Trade Commission.

The **Senior Fraud Advisory Office** will be within the FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection and will monitor the market for mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud targeting seniors and coordinate with other relevant agencies. It is also charged with disseminating consumer education in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health

and Human Services, the Postmaster General, and the Chief Postal Inspector for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

That concludes the federal legislative update to the Task Force.