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FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE FRED CRESPO

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Crespo Legislation to Protect Seniors and Disabled Takes Effect

Hoffman Estates, IL –With the start of the New Year, many pieces of legislation that passed in the previous spring and fall session will start to take effect, including a bill sponsored by State Rep. Fred Crespo (D-Hoffman Estates) that provides protection from financial exploitation to seniors and people living with a disability.

“Increasing the penalties for exploiting our most vulnerable citizens will help deter future scams,” said Crespo. “We must work to protect senior citizens and those with disabilities and this legislation provides safeguards to prevent financial exploitation.”

Crespo helped pass House Bill 1689 as a means to increase penalties on those who prey on the elderly. The legislation increases criminal penalties for financial exploitation of an elderly person based on the amount of money that is stolen. According to AARP, who worked with legislators to pass the bill, financial exploitation takes many forms such as taking an elder's money, property, or valuables, denying services or medical care to conserve funds, giving away or selling the elder's possessions without permission, cashing pension or social security checks without permission, and forcing to sign over property.

“This law will help seniors and people with disabilities live without the fear of being taken advantage of or being exploited,” Crespo said.

For more information, please contact Crespo’s full time constituent services office at (630)-372-3340.

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