



Subtitle D – Elder Justice and Support Guarantee **Bill Summary**

Subtitle D, *Elder Justice and Support Guarantee*, provides \$88 million to fully fund activities of the *Elder Justice Act* (EJA) for fiscal year (FY) 2021 and an additional \$188 million for FY 2022. Public health and social services programs and activities authorized under the EJA are intended to address abuse, neglect, and exploitation of the elderly, exacerbated by the isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding ensures robust support for organizations to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, which has taken a disproportionate toll on nursing home and other long-term care facility residents.

Funding for the EJA expired in 2014. The FY 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act provided a down-payment of \$100 million to support these elder justice programs but fell short of previous levels.

Funding the EJA is key to achieving better coordination of federal responses to elder abuse, promoting elder justice research and innovation, supporting Adult Protective Services systems, and providing additional protections for residents of long-term care facilities during the pandemic and beyond. Together, these activities are an important step toward a comprehensive response to ensure the safety and dignity of older adults and people with disabilities. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on older people living in community or long-term care settings, underscoring the need for policies and funding to protect this vulnerable population.