

By: Adalaide C. Balaban

No: T045

Committee: _____

RESOLUTION

A Resolution To: Increase the penalties for all fraud and double those penalties if the victim is a senior. If found guilty, all state issued licenses related to the fraud would also be rescinded.

WHEREAS: Seniors are directly targeted for fraud. Seniors represent only 11%* of the population but represent 30%* of those victimized by fraud; and,

WHEREAS: Seniors have limited opportunity to recover from the financial and emotional trauma of victimization. Once defrauded of savings, seniors are more likely to become dependent on the State or County for services; and,

WHEREAS: The loss experienced by the senior fraud victim is a loss which is seldom recovered and the perpetrator is able to use the plea-bargain process to negotiate a minimized penalty, now, therefore, be it.

RESOLVED That, the 10th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 79th Texas Legislature enact legislation that increases the penalties for fraud and that those persons or organizations that prey on seniors by means of fraud will be charged double that penalty. If found guilty perpetrators will not be permitted to retain any state licenses related to the fraud.

PASSED AND APPROVED this____day of September, 2004, by

the _____Committee,

Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this____day of September, 2004, by

by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Chris Kyker, Speaker

ATTEST:

Al Campbell, Secretary