



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 172

February Session, 2022



AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ABUSE, ABANDONMENT AND FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION OF ELDERLY PERSONS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OR CONSERVED PERSONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study criminal penalties for abuse, abandonment and financial
3 exploitation of elderly persons, persons with disabilities or conserved
4 persons. The task force shall study such criminal penalties in the state,
5 review such penalties in other states and make recommendations
6 concerning whether to modify such penalties in the state.

7 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

8 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
9 one of whom is a representative of the Division of Criminal Justice and
10 one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Legal Rights Project;

11 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
12 whom is a representative of Greater Hartford Legal Aid and one of
13 whom is a representative of Leading Age Connecticut;

14 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
15 Representatives, who is a representative of an advocacy group for

16 elderly persons;

17 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a
18 representative of a disability rights organization;

19 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
20 Representatives, who is a representative of AARP Connecticut;

21 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is a
22 representative of the Coalition for Elder Justice in Connecticut;

23 (7) The State Ombudsman, appointed pursuant to section 17a-405 of
24 the general statutes, or the State Ombudsman's designee;

25 (8) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's
26 designee; and

27 (9) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
28 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, or the
29 chairpersons' designees.

30 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (3), (4)
31 or (9) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General
32 Assembly.

33 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
34 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
35 be filled by the appointing authority.

36 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
37 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
38 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
39 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
40 days after the effective date of this section.

41 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
42 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging shall
43 serve as administrative staff of the task force.

