

# NEWS...

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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## **Rep. Fine Highlights New Law to Protect Seniors**

**GLENVIEW, IL** – During the Illinois Department of Aging’s *Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month*, state Rep. Laura Fine (D-Glenview) is highlighting a new state resource to help protect seniors.

“Often we hear or see in the news stories about how seniors are being mistreated in our communities,” Fine said. “It is important for family, friends, and caregivers to have resources to keep their loved ones safe. I will continue supporting legislation to provide greater protections to our seniors.”

This year, Fine supported a proposal that makes it easier to identify and report abuse. The new law requires the state police to be trained to recognize signs of physical abuse, financial abuse, and neglect of seniors. It also creates a 24-hour hotline to take in reports of abuse and begin investigations. Any instances of abuse or neglect by caregivers will be accessible on an online database for seniors and their families to view when they are making health care decisions.

The Illinois Department of Aging administers this hotline and follows up on reports of abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation of a senior or adult with disabilities. The number for the 24-hour Adult Protective Services Hotline is (866) 800-1409 or TTY (888) 206-1327.

“While July is Elder Abuse Awareness month in Illinois, family and friends who care for seniors must always be on the lookout for signs of neglect,” Fine said. “If you suspect that your loved one is being abused or exploited, one of the most important things you can do is to notify the proper authorities by calling the hotline.”

For more information, please contact Rep. Fine’s constituent services office by calling (847) 998-1717 or by e-mailing [RepFine@gmail.com](mailto:RepFine@gmail.com).

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