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SENATOR ILEANA GARCIA

36th District

For Immediate Release

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Office of Senator Ileana Garcia

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Senator Ileana García Introduces Groundbreaking Bill to Protect Seniors and Adults with Disabilities

Miami-Dade, FL—Senator Ileana García, representing Senate District 36 in Miami-Dade, Florida, has introduced a groundbreaking bill, Senate Bill 120, titled “Contract Protection for Elderly Persons and Disabled Adults.” This innovative legislation aims to safeguard the rights and well-being of seniors and adults with disabilities in the realm of contracts.

The “Contract Protection Act for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities” seeks to ensure that these vulnerable populations have the opportunity for a comprehensive review of the legal documents they sign, thereby protecting their rights and ensuring their safety. The bill includes protections to make certain that an elder or person with a disability is not under duress or undue influence during the contracting process.

Senator García emphasized the importance of protecting vulnerable citizens, stating, “This bill will ensure that seniors and adults with disabilities understand the contracts they sign. It will also guarantee transparency and accountability in the contracting process.”

As the Florida Senate prepares for 2026 Legislative Session, Senator García is committed to increasing protections for the most vulnerable populations. Below are some notable bills sponsored by Senator García:

2021 Legislative Session:

- Domestic Violence Centers (SB 70): Successfully sponsored to provide funding and operational improvements for domestic violence centers.
- Public Records/Staff and Domestic Violence Advocates (SB 68): Created public records exemptions for the personal information of domestic violence advocates and their staff to enhance safety.

2022 Legislative Session:

- “No Patient Left Alone Act” (SB 988): Passed in April 2022, this law enhances the right of patients to receive in-person visitation, particularly in healthcare facilities like

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President of the Senate

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President Pro Tempore

hospitals and nursing homes, addressing a critical concern during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

2023 Legislative Session:

- “Exploitation of Vulnerable Persons” (SB 232): Enacted in May 2023, this law strengthens protections against the exploitation of vulnerable individuals.
- Children and Young Adults in Out-of-Home Care (SB 272): Known as the Nancy C. Detert Champion for Children Act, this legislation mandates case managers to provide children and young adults with verbal and written information on key topics and established the Office of the Children’s Ombudsman within the Department of Children and Families.

2024 Legislative Session:

- “Young Adult Aftercare Services” (SB 564): This legislation, which became law in April 2024, aims to enhance services and support for young adults who have aged out of the state’s out-of-home care system.

2025 Legislative Session:

- “Young Adult Housing Support” (SB 584): This law addresses housing support for young adults, likely focusing on those transitioning out of the foster care system, a group García has previously advocated for.

2026 Legislative Session (Upcoming):

- “Contract Protection for Elderly Persons and Disabled Adults” (SB 120): Establishes protective measures for seniors and adults with disabilities in contracts.

Additional Legislative Measures:

Senator García has also sponsored a package of bills, including SB 1540 and SB 1542, to create review teams for elder and vulnerable adult abuse fatalities, providing related public record exemptions. Additionally, SB 914 focuses on suicide prevention initiatives.

For more information, please visit www.FLSenate.gov.

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