

**Senate File 2147 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2147

BY SEGEBART

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to a study concerning a comprehensive approach  
2 to detecting, managing, and preventing elder abuse.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. ELDER ABUSE STUDY — DEPARTMENT ON AGING. The  
2 department on aging shall conduct an elder abuse study in  
3 collaboration with representatives from the department on  
4 aging, the department of human services, the department of  
5 inspections and appeals, the department of public safety,  
6 the department of corrections, the division of insurance of  
7 the department of commerce, the department of justice, AARP  
8 Iowa, the older Iowans legislature, and other stakeholders as  
9 deemed appropriate by the department on aging to study issues  
10 and develop policy recommendations concerning a comprehensive  
11 approach to the detection, management, and prevention of elder  
12 abuse. Specifically, the representatives shall examine all of  
13 the following issues:

14 1. The protection of Iowans sixty years of age and older  
15 against all of the recognized categories of abuse as outlined  
16 by the national center on elder abuse including the categories  
17 of physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual  
18 abuse, financial or material exploitation, abandonment,  
19 neglect, and self-neglect.

20 2. Definitions of mandatory reporters of elder abuse,  
21 including employees and officers of financial institutions and  
22 other persons who stand in positions of trust with elders.

23 3. Civil and criminal penalties for perpetrators of elder  
24 abuse.

25 4. The availability of legal and financial assistance for  
26 victims of elder abuse.

27 5. Educational and training requirements for medical staff,  
28 investigators, and other persons to aid in the detection,  
29 management, and prevention of elder abuse.

30 6. The establishment of a central registry of persons who  
31 have committed elder abuse.

32 7. Access to information necessary to maximize assistance  
33 to victims of elder abuse while protecting the privacy of  
34 victims.

35 8. The utilization of multidisciplinary teams throughout

1 Iowa, coordinated by the department on aging, that aid in the  
2 detection, management, and prevention of elder abuse.

3 9. The utilization of special elder abuse investigators  
4 by all agencies involved with the detection, management, and  
5 prevention of elder abuse.

6 10. Existing laws regarding the various aspects of elder  
7 abuse.

8 The study group shall submit a report, including findings  
9 and recommendations, to the general assembly by December 15,  
10 2020.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill requires the department on aging to conduct an  
15 elder abuse study with representatives from the department  
16 on aging, the department of human services, the department  
17 of inspections and appeals, the department of public safety,  
18 the department of corrections, the division of insurance of  
19 the department of commerce, the department of justice, AARP  
20 Iowa, the older Iowans legislature, and other stakeholders as  
21 deemed appropriate by the department on aging to study issues  
22 and develop policy recommendations relating to the detection,  
23 management, and prevention of elder abuse. The study group  
24 shall examine issues relating to the protection of Iowans 60  
25 years of age and older against all of the recognized categories  
26 of abuse as outlined by the national center on elder abuse;  
27 the definition of mandatory reporters of elder abuse; civil  
28 and criminal penalties for perpetrators of elder abuse; the  
29 availability of legal and financial assistance for victims  
30 of elder abuse; educational and training requirements for  
31 medical staff, investigators, and others; the establishment of  
32 a central registry of persons who have committed elder abuse;  
33 access to information necessary to maximize assistance to elder  
34 abuse victims while protecting victim privacy; the use of  
35 multidisciplinary teams that aid in the detection, management,

1 and prevention of elder abuse; the utilization of special elder  
2 abuse investigators; and existing laws regarding elder abuse.

3 A report on the findings and recommendations of the study  
4 group shall be submitted to the general assembly by December  
5 15, 2020.