



REPRESENTATIVE CATHY MUÑOZ

HCR 3 – Promoting the Safety and Protection of Older Alaskans

A devastating problem of elder abuse has been on the rise in Alaska. Over the past four years Adult Protection Services in the Department of Health and Social Services has received an alarming 169% increase in the reports of harm. The Ombudsman Office for Long-term Care has seen a corresponding increase in the reports of harm at 200% in the past three years. The most common allegations are self-neglect, abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation.

Older Alaskans enrich the lives of our communities and provide knowledge of culture and history. As the population of older Alaskans continues to increase it is essential we recognize the complex health needs and services which need to be offered to provide independence and dignity to every individual.

I encourage all Alaskans to take a step forward in recognizing this growing problem. Your support of HCR 3 will help to raise awareness of elder abuse and will promote the safety and protection of older Alaskans.