November 11, 2019

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter King
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jan Schakowsky
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act of 2019 (H.R. 2719)

Dear Representatives Bonamici, King, Maloney and Schakowsky:

On behalf of the American Bar Association (ABA), which is the largest voluntary association of lawyers and legal professionals in the world, I write to commend you on the introduction of the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act, which would afford members of the public a convenient way to contribute to elder abuse prevention and elder justice activities.

The ABA supports this effort as it will increase public awareness of this insidious nationwide problem, and expand financial resources for responding to it. Older persons typically have fewer options for resolving or avoiding abusive situations due to their age, health, or limited resources. The nation’s elderly population is growing at a much greater rate than any other segment. As people live longer, frailty and vulnerability increase. Unfortunately, federal efforts to combat elder abuse have not kept up with the tremendous growth.

The ABA thanks you for your leadership on this bill and other elder-justice related issues, and we urge your colleagues in the House to join this much needed effort to stamp out elder abuse. We stand ready to help move this legislation forward. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact ABA Legislative Counsel David Eppstein at 202-662-1766 or david.eppstein@americanbar.org.

Sincerely,

Judy Perry Martinez