

## **Press Release**

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## U.S. Senate Unanimously Passes Resolution in Support of Slam the Scam Day

The United States Senate passed by Unanimous Consent S.Res.118 designating March 6, 2025, National Slam the Scam Day.

Chairman of the Special Committee on Aging Senator Rick Scott (R-FL) and Committee Member Senator Mark Kelly (D-AZ) introduced the bipartisan resolution to raise awareness of government imposter scams. The resolution was cosponsored by U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging members Senator Kristen Gillibrand (D-NY) and Senator Ashley Moody (R-FL); former committee members Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT); and Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD).

In 2023, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reported scam losses totaled over \$10 billion - \$1 billion more than those reported in 2022, and the highest losses ever reported to the agency. According to the FTC, Social Security-related scams are the number one government imposter scam in the United States. Consumer awareness is the most effective method of deterring these crimes.

"The U.S. Senate resolution amplifies a critical message to every American citizen to be vigilant and hang up the phone or disregard the suspicious messages from these criminals and fraudsters. Together, we can disrupt scams," said Michelle L. Anderson, Assistant Inspector General for Audit performing the duties of the Inspector General for the Social Security Administration. "Chairman Scott's leadership, with members of the U.S. Senate, has provided vital support to the annual resolution and strengthened the Slam the Scam campaign's reach and impact."

National Slam the Scam Day is led jointly by the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and held annually as part of the FTC's National Consumer Protection Week.

Chairman Rick Scott said, "As Chairman of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, I'm proud to lead the bipartisan Senate resolution recognizing March 6<sup>th</sup> as National Slam the Scam Day. Too often, older Americans are targeted and victimized by government imposter scams, costing billions of dollars each year. In partnership with the Social Security Administration (SSA) and other organizations, we are committed to equipping the public with the tools and education needed to stay safe and fight back against these crimes. Through this bipartisan resolution and the continued efforts of the SSA, the Inspector General's Office, and our dedicated partners, we are committed to combat fraud and ensure our aging Americans have the resources to protect themselves from criminal scammers."

On National Slam the Scam Day and throughout the year, SSA OIG partners with other government agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector to increase awareness of current scam tactics and tips for spotting scam behavior to prevent scammers from succeeding in their crimes.

Visit SSA and SSA OIG's joint site for resources, tips, and alerts and to report Social Security-related scams. Other government imposter scams may be reported to the FTC at <a href="https://www.ftc.gov/scams">https://www.ftc.gov/scams</a>.

Use #SlamTheScam to join the conversation on social media. Read the resolution <u>here</u>.

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