



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

OFFERED BY ANNISSA ESSAIBI-GEORGE

**ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING
ELDER SCAMMING**

WHEREAS: The City of Boston joined the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Network in 2014; and

WHEREAS: According to the Age-Friendly Boston Action Plan 2017, in 2010 the City of Boston had over 88,000 residents aged 60 and above, and that number is expected to increase to approximately 125,000 by 2030; and

WHEREAS: Seniors are frequently targeted by companies that claim to offer the best deal, product or service in home repair, banking, insurance, utilities and home sales. Often times these companies are employing predatory sales techniques that mislead or confuse potential customers; and

WHEREAS: Seniors are particularly vulnerable to scamming and predatory sales techniques for a variety of reasons including language barriers, social isolation, and more; and

WHEREAS: According to Zillow the median home value in Boston is \$563,300 and Boston home values have gone up by 10.4% over the past year making seniors whose homes have substantially increased in value particular targets; and

WHEREAS: Seniors have the right to age in place and to feel safe in their homes and communities; **THEREFORE, BE IT**

ORDERED: The appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to determine methods on how to better protect our senior residents from being victims of fraud. Interested parties should be invited to participate such as the Elderly Commission and Attorney General Maura Healey.

FILED January 24, 2018