

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR Michael Gianaris

## On The Heels Of Netflix Hit "The Tinder Swindler," Senate Passes Deputy Leader Gianaris' Bill To Fight Romance Scams

MICHAEL GIANARIS February 16, 2022

ISSUE: ROMANCE SCAMS, CONSUMER PROTECTION, JOHN J. BONACIC, FRAUD



ALBANY, N.Y. – Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris announced the state Senate passed his <u>legislation (S.166-B)</u> requiring money transmitters to warn customers of potential scams ahead of money transfers. This bill passes shortly after the debut of *The Tinder Swindler*, a hit Netflix film about a con artist who allegedly steals over \$10 million from victims running romance scams.

"This Valentine's Day, New York has no love for those who seek to scam people out of their money" said **Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris.** "This bill hits a ripped from the headlines problem that's costing people millions of dollars. New Yorkers deserve the strongest protections against predators and fraud. I am committed to keeping everyone safe from these scammers."

According to the Federal Trade Commission, more than 56,000 Americans reported losing over \$547 million in romance scams in 2021. Senator Gianaris' legislation will require financial institutions to provide a warning to customers of the danger of consumer fraud when transferring funds.

## RELATED LEGISLATION

## 2021-S166

- Introduced
- • In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- • On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- • Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
- •

Requires transmitters of money to provide a certain warning to consumers

December 21, 2020

In Assembly Committee

Sponsored by Michael Gianaris