

1 HB455
2 206309-1
3 By Representatives Coleman and Estes
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 12-MAR-20

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, there is an Amber Alert
9 for children and a Silver Alert for senior
10 citizens. Currently there is no alert that exists
11 for individuals age 18-64.

12 This bill would establish the Alabama
13 Critically Missing Adult Alert Program in order to
14 create an alert system that will assist if an adult
15 is missing.

16 This bill would also create standards and
17 policies for the establishment of the program.

18
19 A BILL
20 TO BE ENTITLED
21 AN ACT
22

23 Relating to missing persons; to establish the
24 Alabama Critically Missing Adult Alert Program in order to
25 create an alert system that will assist if an adult is
26 missing.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1 Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the
2 following terms shall have the following meanings:

3 (1) CRITICALLY MISSING ADULT. An adult whose
4 whereabouts are unknown, who is believed to have been
5 abducted, and whose disappearance poses a credible threat as
6 determined by a law enforcement agency to the health and
7 safety of the adult and under such other circumstances as
8 deemed appropriate by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency
9 (ALEA).

10 (2) CRITICALLY MISSING ADULT ALERT. The notice of a
11 critically missing adult provided to the public by the media
12 or other methods under a critically missing adult alert
13 agreement.

14 (3) CRITICALLY MISSING ADULT ALERT AGREEMENT. A
15 voluntary agreement between law enforcement officials and
16 members of the media whereby an adult will be declared
17 missing, and the public will be notified by media outlets, and
18 includes all other incidental conditions of the partnership as
19 found appropriate by ALEA.

20 (4) CRITICALLY MISSING ADULT ALERT PROGRAM. The
21 procedures and critically missing adult alert agreements to
22 aid in the identification and location of a critically missing
23 adult.

24 (5) CRITICALLY MISSING ADULT REPORT. A report
25 prepared in a format prescribed by the Secretary of ALEA for
26 use by law enforcement to report critically missing adult
27 information, including a photograph, to ALEA.

1 (6) MEDIA. Any print, radio, television, and
2 Internet-based communication systems or other methods of
3 communicating information to the public.

4 Section 2. (a) This act shall be known and may be
5 cited as The Aniah Alert Law.

6 (b) The Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency shall
7 develop policies for the establishment of uniform standards
8 for the creation of a Critically Missing Adult Alert Program
9 by local law enforcement agencies for use throughout the
10 state. ALEA shall do all of the following:

11 (1) Inform local law enforcement officials of the
12 policies and procedures to be used for implementation and
13 coordination of the Critically Missing Adult Alert Program.

14 (2) Assist in determining the geographic scope of a
15 particular critically missing adult alert.

16 (3) Establish procedures and standards by which a
17 local law enforcement agency shall verify that an adult is a
18 critically missing adult and shall report the information to
19 ALEA.

20 (c) The establishment of a Critically Missing Adult
21 Alert Program by a local law enforcement agency and the media
22 is voluntary, and nothing in this act shall be construed to be
23 a mandate that local officials or the media establish or
24 participate in a Critically Missing Adult Alert Program.

25 (d) Upon receipt of a notice of a critically missing
26 adult from a law enforcement agency, ALEA shall confirm the
27 accuracy of the information and provide assistance in the

1 activation of the Critically Missing Adult Alert Program as
2 the investigation dictates.

3 (e) Critically missing adult alerts may be local,
4 regional, or statewide. The initial decision to make a local
5 critically missing adult alert shall be at the discretion of
6 the local law enforcement official. Prior to making a local
7 critically missing adult alert, the local law enforcement
8 official shall confer with ALEA and provide information
9 regarding the critically missing adult to ALEA. The decision
10 to make a regional or statewide critically missing adult alert
11 shall be at the discretion of ALEA.

12 (f) The critically missing adult alert shall include
13 the critically missing adult information adopted pursuant to
14 policies adopted by ALEA and any other information as the law
15 enforcement agency deems appropriate that will assist in the
16 safe recovery of the critically missing adult.

17 (g) The critically missing adult alert shall be
18 cancelled under the terms of the critically missing adult
19 alert agreement. Any local law enforcement agency that locates
20 a critically missing adult who is the subject of an alert
21 shall notify ALEA immediately that the critically missing
22 adult has been located.

23 (h) The Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency may
24 adopt rules for the implementation and administration of this
25 act.

1 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
2 first day of the third month following its passage and
3 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.