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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1055 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY VULAKOVICH, RAFFERTY, SCARNATI, AUMENT, BAKER,  
BREWSTER, COSTA, DINNIMAN, EICHELBERGER, GORDNER, GREENLEAF,  
MARTIN, McILHINNEY, RESCHENTHALER, SABATINA, TARTAGLIONE,  
WARD AND YUDICHAK, FEBRUARY 22, 2018

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REFERRED TO LAW AND JUSTICE, FEBRUARY 22, 2018

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 24, 2004 (P.L.1270, No.153),  
2 entitled "An act providing for the Pennsylvania Amber Alert  
3 System; authorizing and directing the Pennsylvania State  
4 Police to establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Amber Alert  
5 System; assessing costs; and providing for immunity and  
6 penalties," establishing the Pennsylvania Blue Alert System  
7 for the protection of the public and the apprehension of a  
8 person of immediate threat.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The title and section 1 of the act of November  
12 24, 2004 (P.L.1270, No.153), referred to as the Pennsylvania  
13 Amber Alert System Law, are amended to read:

14 AN ACT

15 Providing for the Pennsylvania Amber Alert System, the Missing  
16 Endangered Person Advisory System and the Pennsylvania Blue  
17 Alert System; authorizing and directing the Pennsylvania  
18 State Police to establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Amber  
19 Alert System; assessing costs; and providing for immunity and  
20 penalties.

1 Section 1. Pennsylvania Amber Alert System [and], Missing  
2 Endangered Person Advisory System (MEPAS) and  
3 Pennsylvania Blue Alert System established.

4 (a) Pennsylvania Amber Alert System.--The Pennsylvania State  
5 Police shall establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Amber Alert  
6 System to assist in the recovery of abducted children through  
7 prompt notification to the general public, appropriate law  
8 enforcement authorities and other public agencies.

9 (b) Missing Endangered Person Advisory System (MEPAS).--The  
10 Pennsylvania State Police shall establish and maintain the  
11 Missing Endangered Person Advisory System to assist in the  
12 recovery of missing persons who are at special risk of harm or  
13 injury, through prompt notification to the general public,  
14 appropriate law enforcement authorities and other agencies.

15 (c) Pennsylvania Blue Alert System.--The Pennsylvania State  
16 Police shall establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Blue Alert  
17 System to assist in the protection of the public and the  
18 apprehension of a person of immediate threat, as identified by  
19 the Pennsylvania State Police, who may have been involved in the  
20 injury or death of a law enforcement officer, through prompt  
21 notification to the general public, appropriate law enforcement  
22 authorities and other public agencies.

23 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:  
24 Section 2.2. Use of Pennsylvania Blue Alert System.

25 The Pennsylvania Blue Alert System shall be operated by the  
26 Pennsylvania State Police. Activation may be requested by a law  
27 enforcement agency if notification of the public is considered  
28 prudent for the protection of the public and the immediate need  
29 for apprehension of a person identified by the Pennsylvania  
30 State Police as posing an immediate threat to the public.

1 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.