
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1725

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By House Public Safety (originally sponsored by Representatives Lekanoff, Goodman, Berry, Taylor, Valdez, Bateman, Macri, Peterson, Ramel, Simmons, Orwall, Chopp, Stonier, Harris-Talley, and Frame; by request of Attorney General)

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of an endangered missing person
2 advisory designation for missing indigenous persons; amending RCW
3 13.60.010; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that indigenous
6 people experience disproportionate rates of violence in Washington
7 state. Tribes, state leaders, and grassroots activists have done
8 substantial work to identify factors directly affecting the rates of
9 violence and to ensure that addressing the crisis of missing and
10 murdered indigenous people is a priority at every level. The
11 legislature intends to provide law enforcement with additional tools
12 to disseminate timely, accurate information to engage the public more
13 effectively in assisting with locating missing indigenous people, and
14 to compensate for the unique challenges that indigenous communities
15 face accessing media coverage and the ability to share information.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 13.60.010 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 315 are each
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (1) The Washington state patrol shall establish a missing
19 children and endangered person clearinghouse which shall include the
20 maintenance and operation of a toll-free telephone hotline. The

1 clearinghouse shall distribute information to local law enforcement
2 agencies, school districts, the department of children, youth, and
3 families, and the general public regarding missing children and
4 endangered persons. The information shall include pictures,
5 bulletins, training sessions, reports, and biographical materials
6 that will assist in local law enforcement efforts to locate missing
7 children and endangered persons. The state patrol shall also maintain
8 a regularly updated computerized link with national and other
9 statewide missing person systems or clearinghouses, and within
10 existing resources, shall develop and implement a plan, commonly
11 known as an "amber alert plan" or an "endangered missing person
12 advisory plan" which includes ((a)) "silver alert" ((~~designation~~))
13 and "missing indigenous person alert" designations for voluntary
14 cooperation between local, state, tribal, and other law enforcement
15 agencies, state government agencies, radio and television stations,
16 cable and satellite systems, and social media pages and sites to
17 enhance the public's ability to assist in recovering abducted
18 children and missing endangered persons consistent with the state
19 endangered missing person advisory plan.

20 (2) For the purposes of this chapter:

21 (a) "Child" or "children" means an individual under ((~~eighteen~~))
22 18 years of age.

23 (b) "Missing endangered person" means a person who is believed to
24 be in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability,
25 in combination with environmental or weather conditions, or is
26 believed to be unable to return to safety without assistance and who
27 is:

28 (i) A person with a developmental disability as defined in RCW
29 71A.10.020(5);

30 (ii) A vulnerable adult as defined in RCW 74.34.020; or

31 (iii) A person who has been diagnosed as having Alzheimer's
32 disease or other age-related dementia.

33 (c) "Missing indigenous person alert" means the designated title
34 of a missing endangered person advisory that will be used on a
35 variable message sign and text of the highway advisory radio message
36 when used as part of an activated advisory to assist in the recovery
37 of a missing indigenous person.

38 (d) "Silver alert" means the designated title of a missing
39 endangered person advisory that will be used on a variable message
40 sign and text of the highway advisory radio message when used as part

1 of an activated advisory to assist in the recovery of a missing
2 endangered person age (~~sixty~~) 60 or older.

--- **END** ---