

HB 2764 A -A5 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

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Meeting Dates: 3/14, 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Endangered Missing Person Alert System (system). Directs Superintendent of State Police to establish a task force to develop the system to enable rapid and effective dissemination of information related to missing persons to the public and to facilitate their quick location and recovery. Outlines criteria to be used to determine when endangered person alerts may be issued and terminated. Provides immunity from liability for persons, organizations, or entities that are involved in dissemination of the alerts. Defines terms. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Explanation of Amber Alerts and Silver Alerts
- Role of task force in developing Endangered Missing Person Alert System
- Need for Endangered Missing Person Alert System

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A5 Replaces the measure. Establishes Missing Endangered Person Alert System (system). Directs Superintendent of State Police to establish a task force to design the system. Directs Department of State Police to implement the system as a component of the missing children and adults clearinghouse. Outlines criteria to be used to determine when endangered person alerts may be issued and terminated. Provides immunity from liability for persons, organizations, or entities that are involved in dissemination of the alerts. Defines terms.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Police (OSP) maintain an online database of over 1,300 missing persons in Oregon, known as the Missing Children/ Adults Clearinghouse. The database lists the missing person's county of residence at time of disappearance, the date when they were last seen, age when they were last seen, and their current age. A person is considered missing when their whereabouts are unknown, regardless of circumstance; they are added to the database once they are reported to a law enforcement agency. OSP is also the lead agency in Oregon for the America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response Plan, better known as Amber Alert, which is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Justice and operates as a voluntary partnership between law enforcement, broadcasters, and transportation agencies to activate urgent bulletins in certain child abduction cases.

House Bill 2764 A establishes the Endangered Missing Person Alert System.