

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6495**

**BILL NUMBER: HB 1252**

**NOTE PREPARED: Jan 6, 2009**

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Amber Alerts for High Risk Missing Persons.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Blanton

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill expands the Amber Alert program to include missing endangered adults. The bill renames the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children to the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Persons (Clearinghouse). The bill also requires the Clearinghouse to operate the Amber Alert Program. It also makes conforming changes.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2009.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill will increase the workload of the Indiana State Police (ISP) to include information regarding missing endangered adults in the Clearinghouse, along with missing children. The bill expands the population of individuals that can be listed in the Clearinghouse and can potentially increase the information that law enforcement would be required to transmit to Amber Alert program participants.

The ISP report that the costs of the Amber Alert Program are funded by corporate partners. It is not known what may happen to corporate partnership if Amber Alerts are expanded to include missing endangered adults. However, ISP reports that to expand the current capabilities to provide an expanded Amber Alert Program, costs would increase to provide more phone support to handle any increases in phone calls and administrative support to handle the increases in information that is required to be included in the Clearinghouse. ISP reports that there were an estimated 2,469 reported missing adult persons in 2007. ISP anticipates requiring two clerical positions to process missing persons information. Expenses for these two positions are estimated to be \$72,000 for salary, benefits, Internet support, computer support, and furniture. The funds and resources required could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that

would need to be reclassified; (4) funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

Background Information: ISP reverted \$3.1 M to the General Fund at the end of FY 2008.

Currently, Missouri has an Endangered Persons Advisory that is similar to the Amber Alert system. This system is used to develop and coordinate the efforts of law enforcement and the media in order to increase public participation in safely recovering endangered missing persons by increased communication and effective resource sharing. Missouri's program is a cooperative effort between the Missouri Department of Public Safety, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Missouri Police Chiefs Association, the Missouri Sheriffs Association, and the Missouri Broadcasters Association. Missouri reported that there are no costs associated with the program.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** This bill will increase the workload of local law enforcement to provide identifying information on missing endangered adults for inclusion in the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Persons. Actual increases in workload will depend on how many reports of missing endangered adults are received by local law enforcement.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** ISP.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** Captain Beck, ISP; National Association of State Units on Aging,

**Fiscal Analyst:** Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.