

ACT# 2009- 145

1 HB33  
2 109095-3  
3 By Representative Oden  
4 RFD: Public Safety  
5 First Read: 03-FEB-09  
6 PFD: 12/10/2008



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ENROLLED, An Act,

To create the Missing Senior Citizen Alert Program; to provide for the issuing of media alerts when senior citizens are missing; and to require the Department of Public Safety to adopt rules to issue media alerts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Missing Senior Citizen Alert Act."

Section 2. The Missing Senior Citizen Alert Act is enacted for the following purposes:

(1) To provide a rapid response to missing or lost senior citizens at risk of bodily harm or death.

(2) To gain the voluntary assistance of the broadcast media to help locate missing senior citizens.

Section 3. When used in this act, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) ACJIC. The Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center.

(2) BROADCASTER. Any entity that is engaged in the business of broadcasting video or audio programs, whether through the public airwaves, by cable, by direct or indirect satellite transmissions, or by any other means of communication.

1                   (3) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Public  
2                   Safety.

3                   (4) MISSING SENIOR CITIZEN ALERT. A voluntary  
4                   program entered into by the department and other local and  
5                   state law enforcement agencies and the Alabama Association of  
6                   Broadcasters and broadcasters licensed to serve in the state,  
7                   which provides that if the department verifies that a senior  
8                   citizen is missing or lost and in danger, a media alert is  
9                   transmitted. The broadcasters participating in the program  
10                  then issue a media alert.

11                  Section 4. A missing senior citizen alert shall be  
12                  activated by the department when a senior citizen is reported  
13                  missing and an investigation reveals the following:

14                  (1) The senior citizen is at risk of bodily harm or  
15                  death.

16                  (2) There is enough descriptive information about  
17                  the senior to believe an immediate media alert would help  
18                  investigators locate the person.

19                  Section 5. Once a determination has been made to  
20                  activate the missing senior citizen media alert, the  
21                  originating agency shall do the following:

22                  (1) Issue a local media alert via E-mail and fax  
23                  indicating that a senior citizen is missing.

1                   (2) Prepare and send via E-mail and fax the  
2 information and description of the missing senior to the media  
3 in the appropriate area.

4                   (3) Supplement the information by descriptions or  
5 photographs of the person to the media and the public through  
6 the following:

7                   a. E-mail description.

8                   b. Post the missing senior's photograph on the  
9 department's website.

10                  (4)a. Once the senior is found or the case is  
11 closed, the initiating law enforcement agency shall notify the  
12 department which shall distribute a media alert cancellation.

13                  b. Law enforcement officials shall notify other  
14 agencies of the cancellation.

15                  Section 6. The department may adopt any rules  
16 necessary to implement this act.

17                  Section 7. This act shall become effective on the  
18 first day of the third month following its passage and  
19 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 17-FEB-09.

Greg Pappas  
Clerk

Senate	05-MAR-09	Amended and Passed
House	10-MAR-09	Concurred in Senate Amendment

APPROVED March 25, 2009

TIME 11:00 a.m.  
  
GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary Of State

Act Num....: 2009-145  
Bill Num...: H-33

Recv'd 03/25/09 02:37p JJB