

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

—
H.P. 105 - L.D. 172

An Act to Require the Maine State Police to Create a Statewide List of Missing Persons and Study Improvements for Investigating Missing Persons Cases

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §1512 is enacted to read:

§1512. Missing persons list

In cooperation with appropriate law enforcement agencies, the Bureau of State Police shall establish by December 31, 2026 and maintain a publicly accessible website that lists all open missing persons cases in the State. The website must contain details regarding each missing person in the State that include, but are not limited to, the missing person's demographics, photograph, circumstances of disappearance and last known location and any additional information that may help in locating or identifying the missing person. The website must be updated, at a minimum, once every month to include any new missing person's information as required by this section.

Sec. 2. Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to convene working group. The Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police shall convene a working group to review best practices for investigating missing persons cases in the State, determining the feasibility of implementing those best practices in a training module in the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's curriculum, reviewing the effectiveness of the Silver Alert Program under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 2202 and identifying ways to improve the Silver Alert Program. The working group must include the following members:

1. The Commissioner of Public Safety, or the commissioner's designee;
2. The Chief of the State Police, or the chief's designee;
3. The Chief Medical Examiner, or the chief's designee;
4. A representative from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service;
5. The Director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, or the director's designee;

6. A representative from a statewide association representing sheriffs;
7. A representative from a statewide association representing chiefs of police;
8. A representative from a statewide volunteer association specializing in search and rescue;
9. A representative from an organization that specializes in maintaining a missing persons list;
10. A family member of a missing person; and
11. A representative from each of the federally recognized Indian tribes, nations or bands in the State, appointed by the representative's respective tribe, nation or band.

By December 3, 2025, the bureau shall submit a report that includes the findings and recommendations of the working group, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The committee may submit legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF

State Police 0291

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for technology costs to establish the publicly accessible website.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$4,139	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$4,139	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$2,229	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$2,229	\$0