

Date: (Filing No. H-)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 132ND LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 105, L.D. 172, “An Act to Require the Maine State Police to Create a Statewide List of Missing Persons”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

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

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'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; and
10. A family member of a missing person.

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

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It requires the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to establish and maintain a publicly accessible website that lists all open missing persons cases in the State. The website must be updated, at a minimum, once every month to include any new missing person's information. It also

1 directs the bureau to convene a working group to review best practices for investigating
2 missing persons cases, determining the feasibility of implementing those best practices in
3 the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's curriculum, reviewing the effectiveness of the Silver
4 Alert Program and identifying ways to improve the program. The bureau is required to
5 submit a report by December 3, 2025 to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice
6 and Public Safety, which may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the
7 132nd Legislature. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

8 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

9 **(See attached)**