

Peg Killian  
Orono  
LD 496

Maine should do all that it can to alert the public of a missing, vulnerable person. Silver Alerts should be immediate in the case of a person already identified as being vulnerable—a patient receiving psychiatric care, a resident of a group home, anyone diagnosed with cognitive dysfunction. These alerts should be publicly promoted until the person has been found. And they should be sent to agencies most likely to interact with a missing vulnerable person, such as first responders, hospitals, and those who provide services to the homeless. Please pass LD 496!

I have spent many, many hours over the last couple years trying to help locate Graham Lacher. I helped his mother set up the Facebook page Missing Graham Lacher. I have physically searched multiple locations from Orono down to Gardiner, hiking through woods and driving on many roads. I helped set up a spreadsheet to send information to dozens of police stations, shelters, food pantries, clinics and hospitals. I've gone to dozens of gas stations, convenience stores, and fast food places asking to put up signage for Graham. I have talked to many homeless people in the Bangor area, trying to get and give information. I've helped his mother follow up on sightings. If this information about Graham had been disseminated much earlier via the Silver Alert, I think it would have been very likely that he would have been found within days of his disappearance. I know I'm not the only one who has spent all this time and energy and gas and money on finding ways to keep looking for him. But all this might not have been needed if the alerts had been in place from the beginning. Thank you.