28-LS0260\N
Strasbaugh
2/18/13

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 59( )

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to missing vulnerable adult prompt response and notification plans."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

*** Section 1.** AS 44.35.020(a) is amended to read:

(a) The Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall

(1) conduct the military affairs of the state as prescribed by the Military Code;

(2) cooperate with the federal government in matters of mutual concern pertaining to the welfare of Alaskan veterans, including establishing, extending, or strengthening services for veterans in the state; [AND]

(3) annually, not later than February 1, make available a report to the legislature, through the governor, outlining the department's activities during the previous calendar year; the department shall notify the legislature that the report is available**; and**

(4) cooperate with the Department of Public Safety to develop and implement missing vulnerable adult prompt response and notification plans

under AS 44.41.060.

* **Sec. 2.** AS 44.41 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 44.41.060. Missing vulnerable adult prompt response and notification plans. (a) The Department of Public Safety, in cooperation with the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, shall, using statewide and local radio and television broadcasts, newspapers, and other communications media, develop and implement missing vulnerable adult prompt response and notification plans for use by law enforcement agencies, groups, and persons to locate a vulnerable adult who is missing and coordinate the use of those plans. The plans must at least include standards for

(1) determining when it is appropriate to implement a plan; standards developed under this paragraph must at least address

(A) when a vulnerable adult will be considered missing; and

(B) the format, contents, and distribution of reports prepared by participating law enforcement agencies and others searching for a missing vulnerable adult;

(2) determining where to implement the plan;

(3) voluntary participation in the plan by radio and television broadcasters, newspaper publishers, and owners and operators of other communications media.

(b) Notwithstanding another provision of law, a radio or television broadcaster, a newspaper publisher, or an owner or operator of other communications media is not civilly liable for participating in a missing vulnerable adult prompt response and notification plan or for participating in the actual implementation of a plan if the broadcaster, publisher, or owner or operator has verified the authenticity of that implementation with the law enforcement agency.

(c) In this section, "vulnerable adult" has the meaning given in AS 47.24.900.