

**HOUSE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 179(STA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/13/12

Referred: Judiciary

Sponsor(s): SENATORS DAVIS, Wielechowski, Dyson, Kookesh, Ellis, Meyer, Menard, Paskvan, McGuire, Stedman, Thomas, Olson, Wagoner, Stevens

REPRESENTATIVES Petersen, Gruenberg, Tuck

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1           **AS 44.41.060.**

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

3                       **Sec. 44.41.060. Missing vulnerable adult prompt response and notification**

4           **plans.** (a) The Department of Public Safety, in cooperation with the Department of  
5           Military and Veterans' Affairs, shall, using statewide and local radio and television  
6           broadcasters and newspaper publishers, develop missing vulnerable adult prompt  
7           response and notification plans for use by law enforcement to locate a vulnerable adult  
8           who is missing, or who has disappeared, and coordinate the use of those plans. The  
9           plans must, at a minimum, include standards

10                       (1) for determining when implementation of a notification plan would  
11           be appropriate; at a minimum, these standards must address

12                               (A) when a vulnerable adult is to be considered missing; and

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

16                       (2) for determining the proper area in which the plan is to be  
17           implemented;

18                       (3) providing for the voluntary participation of radio and television  
19           broadcasters and newspaper publishers in the plan.

20           (b) Notwithstanding another provision of law,

21                       (1) a law enforcement agency, or an officer or employee of the law  
22           enforcement agency, is not civilly liable for

23                               (A) failing to participate in a missing vulnerable adult prompt  
24           response and notification plan;

25                               (B) failing to implement a missing vulnerable adult prompt  
26           response and notification plan; or

27                               (C) activating a missing vulnerable adult prompt response and  
28           notification plan if implementation is undertaken in good faith;

29                       (2) a radio or television broadcaster or newspaper publisher is not  
30           civilly liable for participating in a missing vulnerable adult prompt response and  
31           notification plan or for participating in the actual implementation of a plan if the

1 broadcaster or publisher has verified the authenticity of that implementation with the  
2 law enforcement agency.

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