
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that some seniors are at
2 risk of wandering from residences or senior care living
3 facilities due to impaired awareness as a result of Alzheimer's
4 or another form of dementia. Studies show more than sixty per
5 cent of seniors with such conditions will wander, and if not
6 found within twenty four hours, up to half will suffer serious
7 injury or death. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, 14.3 per
8 cent of the population in our State is over the age of sixty-
9 five. Therefore the legislature desires to mirror the success
10 of the Maile Amber alert program for the prompt and safe
11 retrieval of displaced seniors. A majority of states already
12 have such a program in place.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
14 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
15 read as follows:

16 "§ _____ Silver Alert System. The state civil defense
17 division with the cooperation of each respective county's police



1 departments, local broadcasters, and other relevant and
2 appropriate state and county agencies, shall develop and
3 implement a statewide silver alert program to be activated on
4 behalf of a missing senior citizen in the appropriate county.

5 To the greatest extent possible, the silver alert program shall
6 be integrated with the preexisting Maile Amber Alert program and
7 partnership. (1) A silver alert shall be issued if the
8 following criteria are met:

9 (a) A county police department receives notice of a
10 missing senior citizen from the family or legal guardian of the
11 missing senior citizen;

12 (b) The senior citizen is domiciled in Hawaii, but the
13 current location of the senior citizen is unknown;

14 (c) There is reasonable suspicion that the senior citizen
15 has an impaired mental condition, which can be proved by the
16 family, legal guardian, or physician of the missing senior
17 citizen; and

18 (d) Sufficient information is provided that indicates that
19 the senior citizen's disappearance poses a credible threat to
20 the health and safety of the senior citizen.



1 (2) The silver alert shall include all appropriate information
2 provided by the respective county's police department,
3 information that may lead to the safe recovery of the missing
4 senior citizen, and a statement instructing any person with
5 information related to the missing senior citizen to contact a
6 local law enforcement agency and the contact information for
7 that agency.

8 (3) For purposes of this Section:

9 (a) "Silver alert" means the countywide silver alert for
10 missing senior citizens developed and implemented by this Act;

11 (b) "Local law enforcement agency" means a law enforcement
12 agency with jurisdiction over the investigation of a missing
13 senior citizen;

14 (c) "Senior citizen" means a person who is sixty-five
15 years of age or older."

16 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY:



H.B. NO. 1971

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H.B. NO. 1971

Report Title:

Silver Alert System

Description:

Creates and implements a silver alert program to alert the public of any missing senior citizen with an impaired mental condition, to be operated concurrently with the Maile Amber Alert program.

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