

SB0128

inserted text shows text that was not in SB0128 but was inserted into SB0128S01

Public Alert Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jen Plumb

House Sponsor:

53-10-1102 , Utah Code Annotated 1953

SB0128 compared with SB0128S01

53-10-1103 , Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 1 is enacted to read:

53-10-1101. Definitions.

11. Purple Alert System

As used in this part:

(1) "Amber Alert" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53-10-1001.

(2) "Dementia" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53-10-702.

~~{(3) }~~

~~{(a) {"Dependent adult" means an individual who is:}}~~

~~{(i) {18 years old but younger than 60 years old; and}}~~

~~{(ii) {has a physical or mental impairment that restricts the individual's ability to carry out normal activities or to protect the individual's rights.}}~~

~~{(b) {"Dependent adult" includes an individual:}}~~

~~{(i) {who has physical or developmental disabilities; or}}~~

~~{(ii) {whose physical or mental capacity has substantially diminished because of age.}}~~

~~{(c) {"Dependent adult" does not include an individual who has dementia.}}~~

(4){(3)} "Purple Alert" means an alert issued under the Purple Alert Notification System by the department for a missing vulnerable {adult} individual in accordance with Section 53-10-1102.

(5){(4)} "Purple Alert Notification System" means the system created in Section 53-10-1102.

(5)

(a) "Vulnerable adult" means an individual who:

(i) is 18 years old or older but younger than 60 years old; and

(6){(ii)} ~~{ "Vulnerable adult" means }~~ possesses a ~~{ dependent adult who has a }~~ physical or mental impairment, permanent or ~~{ physical impairment }~~ temporary, that substantially affects the individual's ability to:

(a){(A)} provide personal protection;

(b){(B)} provide necessities such as food, shelter, clothing, or medical or other {health care} healthcare;

(c){(C)} obtain services necessary for health, safety, or welfare;

SB0128 compared with SB0128S01

- 44 (d){ (D) } carry out the activities of daily living;or
45 (e){ (E) } manage the individual's own resources{~~or~~}.
46 {~~(f) {comprehend the nature and consequences of remaining in a situation of abuse, neglect, or~~
~~exploitation.}~~}
- 41 (b) "Vulnerable adult" does not include an individual who has dementia.
42 (6) "Vulnerable minor" means a individual who:
43 (a) is younger than 18 years old; and
44 (b) has a permanent or temporary physical or mental impairment.
45 (7) "dividual" means a vulnerable adult or vulnerable minor.
- 46 Section 2. Section 2 is enacted to read:
47 **53-10-1102. Purple Alert Notification System -- Creation -- Law enforcement and**
department responsibilities.
- 51 (1) There is created the Purple Alert Notification System for missing vulnerable { ~~adults~~ } individuals
to be administered by the department to issue and coordinate alerts following the report of a missing
vulnerable { ~~adult~~ } individual.
- 54 {~~(2)~~ }
{~~(a) {If a law enforcement agency receives a report of a missing adult, the law enforcement agency~~
~~shall determine whether the missing adult is a vulnerable adult.}~~}
- 56 (b){ (2) } If { ~~the~~ } a law enforcement agency { ~~determines that the missing adult is~~ } receives a
{ ~~vulnerable adult~~ } report of a missing individual, the law enforcement agency { ~~shall~~ } may request
that the department { ~~to~~ } activate a Purple Alert{~~;~~} for the individual if the law enforcement agency
determines that:
- 59 {~~(3) {The department may only activate a Purple Alert after receiving a request under Subsection (2)(b)~~
~~if:}~~}
- 55 (a) the missing individual is a vulnerable individual;
61 (a){ (b) } the { ~~department determines that the~~ } Purple Alert is a viable means by which the missing
vulnerable { ~~adult~~ } individual is likely to be returned to safety;and
- 63 (b){ (c) } there is sufficient descriptive information about the missing vulnerable { ~~adult~~ } individual and
the circumstances surrounding the vulnerable { ~~adult's~~ } individual's disappearance to indicate that
activating the alert is likely to help locate the vulnerable { ~~adult;~~ } individual.
- 61 (3) The department shall activate a Purple Alert after receiving a request under Subsection (2) if:

SB0128 compared with SB0128S01

- 66 (c){(a)} {there} in the case of a missing vulnerable individual who is a {credible threat of immediate
67 danger or serious bodily harm to the} vulnerable {adult or} minor, the criteria for the activation of
68 the {public} Amber Alert System under Section 53-10-1002 has not been met; and
69 (d){(b)} the Purple Alert meets any additional requirements established by the department for activation
70 of a Purple Alert under Section 53-10-1103.
- 71 (4)
(a) The Purple Alert Notification System shall:
- 72 (i) except as provided in Subsections (4)(a)(ii) and (b)(i), utilize the same coordination as an Amber
73 Alert; and
- 74 (ii) when providing information to the Department of Transportation for the activation of highway
75 signage to locate a missing vulnerable {adult} individual, indicate the specific geographical area
76 in which the missing {endangered} vulnerable {adult} individual was last seen, to ensure that
77 signs only in that area will be activated.
- 78 (b) The Purple Alert Notification System may not:
- 79 (i) activate the Emergency Alert System when issuing a Purple Alert; or
80 (ii) issue a Purple Alert that contains information regarding an endangered vulnerable {adult's}
81 individual's specific medical diagnosis.
- 82 Section 3. Section 3 is enacted to read:
83 **53-10-1103. Rulemaking authority.**
84 The department shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
85 Administrative Rulemaking Act, establishing policies, procedures, and a timeline for the:
- 86 (1) request of a Purple Alert by a law enforcement officer or agency;
87 (2) activation of a Purple Alert;
88 (3) duration of a Purple Alert; and
89 (4) cancellation of a Purple Alert.
- 90 Section 4. **Effective date.**
91 Effective Date.
92 This bill takes effect on {May 6, 2026} January 1, 2027.

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