

1 **SILVER ALERT PROGRAM**

2 2019 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Lee B. Perry**

5 Senate Sponsor: Don L. Ipson

6

LONG TITLE

7 **General Description:**

8 This bill creates a Silver Alert Notification System for missing endangered adults.

9 **Highlighted Provisions:**

10 This bill:

11 ▶ defines "endangered adult" as a person 60 years of age or older with dementia;

12 ▶ requires the Department of Public Safety to develop an alert system similar to the
13 Amber Alert System for endangered adults;

14 ▶ requires that the system utilize highway signage in the geographical area where the
15 person went missing; and

16 ▶ allows the department to make rules to set requirements for alerts.

17 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

18 None

19 **Other Special Clauses:**

20 None

21 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

22 ENACTS:

23 **53-10-701**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

24 **53-10-702**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

25 **53-10-703**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26 **53-10-704**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

30 Section 1. Section **53-10-701** is enacted to read:

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Part 7. Utah Silver Alert Act

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53-10-701. Title -- Creation.

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(1) This part is known as the "Utah Silver Alert Act."

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(2) There is created the Utah Silver Alert Notification System (Silver Alert) for

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missing and endangered adults to be administered by the department.

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Section 2. Section **53-10-702** is enacted to read:

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53-10-702. Definitions.

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As used in this part:

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(1) "Dementia" means a person has a form of cognitive decline that significantly

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affects the person's ability to make decisions and provide for health, safety, or self care. This

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term includes Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia marked by the continual loss of

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memory and awareness of surroundings.

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(2) "Endangered adult" means a person 60 years of age or older or a person under 60

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years of age who has a form of dementia.

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Section 3. Section **53-10-703** is enacted to read:

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53-10-703. Silver Alert Notification System -- Law enforcement and department responsibilities.

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(1) The department shall develop a quick response system designed to issue and

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coordinate alerts following the report of a missing endangered adult. The system shall utilize

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the same coordination as the Amber Alert System with the following exceptions:

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(a) the National Emergency Broadcast System may not be activated; and

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(b) notification to the Department of Transportation for the activation of highway

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signage shall indicate the specific area in which the person was last seen so that signs only in

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that geographical area will be activated.

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(2) Upon receiving a report of a missing adult, the law enforcement officer shall

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determine whether the missing adult meets the criteria to be designated as an endangered adult.

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(3) If it is determined that the missing adult is an endangered adult, the officer

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investigating the person's disappearance shall request the department activate the Silver Alert

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59 Notification System.

60 Section 4. Section **53-10-704** is enacted to read:

61 **53-10-704. Rulemaking authority.**

62 The department shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
63 Administrative Rulemaking Act, establishing policies, procedures, and a timeline for the:

64 (1) request for a Silver Alert by a law enforcement officer or agency;

65 (2) activation of the Silver Alert Notification System;

66 (3) duration of the Silver Alert; and

67 (4) cancellation of a Silver Alert.