

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1021**

Chapter 2, Laws of 2015

64th Legislature  
2015 1st Special Session

SILVER ALERT SYSTEM

EFFECTIVE DATE: 8/27/2015

Passed by the House May 28, 2015  
Yeas 88 Nays 4

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate May 28, 2015  
Yeas 43 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

**President of the Senate**

Approved June 10, 2015 2:35 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1021** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

June 10, 2015

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1021**

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Passed Legislature - 2015 1st Special Session

**State of Washington                      64th Legislature                      2015 Regular Session**

**By** House Public Safety (originally sponsored by Representatives Appleton, Orwall, Robinson, Bergquist, Cody, Hudgins, Senn, Santos, and Fey)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/15.

1            AN ACT Relating to creating a silver alert system; amending RCW  
2 13.60.010; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The legislature finds that Washington  
5 state's elderly population is growing and the number of individuals  
6 with dementia is increasing. The legislature further finds that  
7 approximately sixty percent of individuals with dementia will wander  
8 at least once and, that if not found within twenty-four hours, up to  
9 half of wandering seniors with dementia will suffer serious injury or  
10 death. The legislature further finds that the state of Washington has  
11 a compelling interest in protecting the safety of vulnerable citizens  
12 with cognitive impairments. The legislature further finds that  
13 creating a public notification system to broadcast information about  
14 missing persons with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or other mental  
15 disabilities to aid in their safe return will help prevent  
16 unnecessary suffering and death.

17            **Sec. 2.**    RCW 13.60.010 and 2013 c 285 s 1 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19            (1) The Washington state patrol shall establish a missing  
20 children and endangered person clearinghouse which shall include the

1 maintenance and operation of a toll-free telephone hotline. The  
2 clearinghouse shall distribute information to local law enforcement  
3 agencies, school districts, the department of social and health  
4 services, and the general public regarding missing children and  
5 endangered persons. The information shall include pictures,  
6 bulletins, training sessions, reports, and biographical materials  
7 that will assist in local law enforcement efforts to locate missing  
8 children and endangered persons. The state patrol shall also maintain  
9 a regularly updated computerized link with national and other  
10 statewide missing person systems or clearinghouses, and within  
11 existing resources, shall develop and implement a plan, commonly  
12 known as an "amber alert plan" or an "endangered missing person  
13 advisory plan((~~7~~))" which includes a "silver alert" designation for  
14 voluntary cooperation between local, state, tribal, and other law  
15 enforcement agencies, state government agencies, radio and television  
16 stations, cable and satellite systems, and social media pages and  
17 sites to enhance the public's ability to assist in recovering  
18 abducted children and missing endangered persons consistent with the  
19 state endangered missing person advisory plan.

20 (2) For the purposes of this chapter:

21 (a) "Child" or "children" means an individual under eighteen  
22 years of age.

23 (b) "Missing endangered person" means a person (~~(with a~~  
24 ~~developmental disability as defined in RCW 71A.10.020(4) or a~~  
25 ~~vulnerable adult as defined in RCW 74.34.020(17),)~~) who is believed  
26 to be in danger because of age, health, mental or physical  
27 disability, in combination with environmental or weather conditions,  
28 or is believed to be unable to return to safety without assistance  
29 and who is:

30 (i) A person with a developmental disability as defined in RCW  
31 71A.10.020(5);

32 (ii) A vulnerable adult as defined in RCW 74.34.020(17); or

33 (iii) A person who has been diagnosed as having Alzheimer's  
34 disease or other age-related dementia.

35 (c) "Silver alert" means the designated title of a missing  
36 endangered person advisory that will be used on a variable message  
37 sign and text of the highway advisory radio message when used as part  
38 of an activated advisory to assist in the recovery of a missing  
39 endangered person age sixty or older.

Passed by the House May 28, 2015.  
Passed by the Senate May 28, 2015.  
Approved by the Governor June 10, 2015.  
Filed in Office of Secretary of State June 10, 2015.

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