

HOUSE BILL 1016

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O3

2004 Regular Session  
(4lr2345)

**ENROLLED BILL**  
*-- Judiciary/Judicial Proceedings --*

Introduced by **Delegates Cryor, Amedori, Bates, Carter, Conroy, Eckardt,  
Glassman, Goldwater, Healey, Hixson, King, Madaleno, Mandel,  
McMillan, Rudolph, Shank, and Taylor**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

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Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this  
\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on ~~Extending the Amber Alert to~~ Missing Vulnerable Adults**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on ~~Extending the Amber Alert to~~  
4 Missing Vulnerable Adults; providing for the composition of the Task Force;  
5 requiring the Task Force to elect a chair and vice chair of the Task Force from  
6 among the Task Force's members; providing staff for the Task Force; prohibiting  
7 members from receiving compensation but entitling members to reimbursement  
8 of certain expenses; ~~requiring the Task Force to identify, access, and compile~~  
9 ~~certain data; requiring the Task Force to make certain recommendations~~  
10 establishing the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to submit a  
11 certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain  
12 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to a Task  
13 Force on ~~Extending the Amber Alert to~~ Missing Vulnerable Adults.

1

## Preamble

2     ~~WHEREAS, A system is needed to locate adults who are vulnerable due to~~  
3 ~~faulty prescription medications that cause confusion, Alzheimer's disease, a sudden~~  
4 ~~onset of illness, an accident, or an unanticipated event; and~~

5     ~~WHEREAS, When a vulnerable adult crosses county lines, the adult is~~  
6 ~~difficult to locate; and~~

7     ~~WHEREAS, The current Amber Alert is an effective means of locating missing~~  
8 ~~children, and the existing system can be expanded to include vulnerable adults who~~  
9 ~~are missing; now, therefore,~~

10     SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
11 MARYLAND, That:

12     (a)     There is a Task Force on ~~Extending the Amber Alert to~~ Missing Vulnerable  
13 Adults.

14     (b)     The Task Force consists of the following members:

15             (1)     ~~two members~~ one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by  
16 the President of the Senate;

17             (2)     two members of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the  
18 Speaker of the House;

19             (3)     a representative of the Department of State Police, selected by the  
20 Department;

21             (4)     a representative of the Maryland Center for Missing Children,  
22 selected by the organization;

23             (5)     a representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association,  
24 selected by the association;

25             (6)     a representative of the Maryland State Sheriffs Association, selected  
26 by the association;

27             (7)     a representative of the Maryland, D.C., Delaware Broadcasters  
28 Association, selected by the association;

29             (8)     a representative of the Cable Telecommunications Association of  
30 Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia, selected by the association;

31             (9)     a representative of the Alzheimer's ~~Foundation~~ Association, selected  
32 by the ~~foundation~~ association; ~~and~~

33             (10)    a representative of AARP, selected by the organization;

1           (11)    a representative of the Office of the State Medical Examiner, selected  
2 by the office;

3           (12)    a representative of the United Seniors Association, selected by the  
4 association; and

5           (13)    two individuals, selected by the Governor, each of whom is the spouse  
6 or a family member of a missing vulnerable adult in the State.

7       (c)       The members of the Task Force shall elect the chair and vice chair from  
8 among the members of the Task Force.

9       (d)       The Department of State Police shall provide staff for the Task Force.

10      (e)       A member of the Task Force:

11           (1)       may not receive compensation; but

12           (2)       is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
13 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

14      (↔)      (f)       The Task Force shall:

15           (1)       identify, access, and compile data about missing adults in a similar  
16 manner as other states that have programs to locate missing adults;

17           (2)       make recommendations regarding establishing better communication  
18 between counties and the State when vulnerable adults are missing;

19           (3)       make recommendations to ~~put together a better~~ establish a system to  
20 locate and identify, using criteria and strict protocols developed by the Task Force,  
21 vulnerable adults who are missing and to identify unclaimed deceased adults who  
22 may be missing vulnerable adults;

23           (4)       make recommendations for law enforcement officials to set up  
24 ~~protocol to work with Amber Alert and~~ establish protocols for working with the  
25 broadcast media in locating vulnerable adults who are missing; ~~and~~

26           (5)       investigate integration with Amber Alert and the broadcast media in  
27 locating vulnerable adults who are missing; and

28           (6)       report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in  
29 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly  
30 on or before October 1, 2005.

31      SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
32 effect October 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and,  
33 at the end of October 31, 2005, with no further action required by the General  
34 Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

