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

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2004

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

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

13 **Preamble**

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

17 WHEREAS, When a vulnerable adult crosses county lines, the adult is
18 difficult to locate; and

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

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
23 MARYLAND, That:

24 (a) There is a Task Force on Extending the Amber Alert to Vulnerable Adults.

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

1 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
2 of the Senate;

3 (2) two members of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the
4 Speaker of the House;

5 (3) a representative of the Department of State Police, selected by the
6 Department;

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

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

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

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

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

17 (9) a representative of the Alzheimer's Foundation, selected by the
18 foundation; and

19 (10) a representative of AARP, selected by the organization.

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

22 (d) A member of the Task Force:

23 (1) may not receive compensation; but

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

26 (e) The Task Force shall:

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

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

31 (3) make recommendations to put together a better system to locate
32 vulnerable adults who are missing;

1 (4) make recommendations to set up protocol to work with Amber Alert
2 and the broadcast media in locating vulnerable adults who are missing; and

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

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