

**DRAFT ONLY  
NOT APPROVED FOR  
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

Missing person alert systems.

Sponsored by: Select Committee on Tribal Relations

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to missing person alert systems; amending  
2 duties for the office of homeland security and highway  
3 patrol for emergency alert communications networks;  
4 amending state cooperation with federal, tribal and local  
5 law enforcement for alert systems; providing a definition;  
6 and providing for an effective date.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 19-13-105(c)(vii) and 24-12-102(c)  
11 and by creating a new subsection (d) are amended to read:

12

13 **19-13-105. Homeland security program.**

1

2 (c) The director is the administrative head of the  
3 Wyoming office of homeland security. In addition to the  
4 duties described in W.S. 19-13-104(d) the director:

5

6 (vii) Shall assist and coordinate with local, state,  
7 tribal and federal law enforcement agencies to employ the  
8 integrated public alert and warning system or successor  
9 system to notify residents of imminent threat by natural  
10 disaster or manmade event or to aid in the safe recovery of  
11 missing or endangered persons, which adheres to United  
12 States department of justice criteria. The director shall  
13 also assist local, state, tribal and federal law  
14 enforcement agencies with the integration with existing  
15 alert systems of additional missing persons alert  
16 communications networks that enable and help facilitate  
17 search efforts for an adult at risk or other missing person  
18 of an age, needs or circumstances that may fall outside the  
19 scope of the integrated public alert and warning system or  
20 successor system. As used in this paragraph "adult at risk"  
21 means an adult who has a developmental disability, who  
22 suffers from Alzheimer's disease or dementia, or who  
23 suffers from or could, without access to medication, suffer

1 from cognitive impairment if the impairment would likely  
2 render the adult incapable of getting to a familiar  
3 location without assistance.

4

5 **24-12-102. Duties generally; emergencies;**  
6 **coordination.**

7

8 (c) The state highway patrol shall coordinate with  
9 local, tribal, state and federal law enforcement agencies,  
10 the Wyoming office of homeland security and any other  
11 appropriate entity to operate an alert system under the  
12 integrated public alert and warning system or successor  
13 system, adhering to the United States department of justice  
14 criteria. The state highway patrol shall operate and  
15 integrate with existing alert systems additional missing  
16 persons alert communications networks that enable and help  
17 facilitate search efforts for an adult at risk or other  
18 missing person of an age, needs or circumstances that may  
19 fall outside the scope of the integrated public alert and  
20 warning system or successor system. The state highway  
21 patrol shall report annually to the division of criminal  
22 investigation the number of times and dates that the alert  
23 ~~system was~~ systems were used, the age, race and gender of

1 the abducted person, whether the abduction was thwarted and  
2 whether ~~the~~an alert system assisted in resolving the  
3 abduction. In addition:

4

5 (i) If the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern  
6 Arapaho ~~and Eastern Shoshone tribes~~Tribe, both tribes, or  
7 the cooperative tribal governing body:

8

9 (A) Operate or seek to operate an alert  
10 system under the integrated public alert and warning system  
11 or successor system on the Wind River Indian Reservation,  
12 adhering to the United States department of justice  
13 criteria, or operate or seek to operate an additional  
14 missing persons alert communications network also operated  
15 by the state, the Wyoming office of homeland security and  
16 state highway patrol shall assist and coordinate with any  
17 tribal agency in establishing, integrating or operating  
18 that system;

19

20 (B) Report missing or endangered persons to  
21 the state highway patrol, the state highway patrol shall  
22 employ the applicable alert ~~system~~systems under this

1 subsection to aid in the protection of persons and safe  
2 recovery of the reported missing or endangered persons.

3

4 (ii) The state highway patrol may also use,  
5 integrate or manage other alert systems to aid in the safe  
6 recovery of missing or endangered persons.

7

8 (d) As used in this section "adult at risk" means an  
9 adult who has a developmental disability, who suffers from  
10 Alzheimer's disease or dementia, or who suffers from or  
11 could, without access to medication, suffer from cognitive  
12 impairment if the impairment would likely render the adult  
13 incapable of getting to a familiar location without  
14 assistance.

15

16 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2023.

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18

(END)