

HB48 INTRODUCED



1 HB48
2 3PHK1ZV-1
3 By Representative Givan
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 13-Jan-26
6 PFD: 05-Nov-25



4 SYNOPSIS:

5 Under existing federal law, the AMBER Alert
6 System sends an alert to assist in the recovery of a
7 child under 17 years of age who a law enforcement
8 agency believes has been abducted and is in imminent
9 danger of serious bodily injury or death.

10 Under existing state law, the Missing and
11 Endangered Persons Alert Act sends an alert when the
12 Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency believes an
13 individual has been abducted and has a reasonable
14 belief that the individual is at risk of bodily harm or
15 death.

16 This bill would create an Ebony Alert System to
17 send an alert to assist in the recovery of a Black
18 youth or young adult, under certain circumstances.

21 A BILL
22 TO BE ENTITLED
23 AN ACT

24
25 Relating to public safety; to create an Ebony Alert
26 System to send an alert to assist in the recovery of a missing
27 Black youth or young adult under certain circumstances.
28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:



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29 Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, "Ebony
30 Alert" means a notification system, activated pursuant to
31 subsection (b), designed to issue and coordinate alerts for
32 Black youth, including young women and girls, who are reported
33 missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances.

34 (b) (1) If an individual is reported missing to a law
35 enforcement agency and that agency, referencing the factors in
36 subsection (c), determines that an alert would assist in the
37 search and rescue of the individual, the law enforcement
38 agency may request the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency
39 (ALEA) to activate an Ebony Alert.

40 (2) If ALEA concurs with the assessment of the factors
41 in subsection (c), ALEA shall activate an Ebony Alert within
42 the appropriate geographical area requested by the
43 investigating law enforcement agency.

44 (3) Radio, television, cable, satellite, and social
45 media systems are encouraged to cooperate with disseminating
46 the information contained in an Ebony Alert.

47 (4) Upon activation of an Ebony Alert, ALEA shall
48 assist the investigating law enforcement agency by issuing a
49 be-on-the-lookout alert, an electronic flyer, or a changeable
50 message sign in compliance with subdivision (5).

51 (5) Upon activation of an Ebony Alert, ALEA may use a
52 changeable message sign if both of the following conditions
53 are met:

54 a. A law enforcement agency determines that a vehicle
55 may be involved in the incident.

56 b. Specific identifying information about the vehicle



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is available for public dissemination.

(c) A law enforcement agency may request that an Ebony Alert be activated if that agency determines that an Ebony Alert would be an effective tool in the investigation of missing Black youth, including a young woman or girl, after considering the following factors:

(1) Whether the missing individual is between 12 and 25 years of age.

(2) Whether the missing individual suffers from a mental or physical disability.

(3) Whether the individual is missing under circumstances that indicate any of the following:

a. The missing individual's physical safety may be endangered.

b. The disappearance of the missing individual may not have been voluntary, including an abduction or kidnapping.

c. The missing individual may be subject to trafficking.

(4) Whether the law enforcement agency determines that the individual has gone missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances as determined by the investigation of the law enforcement agency.

(5) Whether the law enforcement agency believes any of the following:

a. The individual is in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, or environmental or weather related conditions.

b. The individual is in the company of a potentially



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85 dangerous individual.

86 c. There are other factors indicating that the
87 individual may be in peril.

88 (6) Whether the investigating law enforcement agency
89 has utilized available local resources.

90 (7) Whether there is information available that, if
91 disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery
92 of the missing individual.

93 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
94 1, 2026.