

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 612

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MAY.

2425S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 210, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to emergency notification systems, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 210, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 210.1017, to read as
3 follows:

210.1017. 1. There is hereby created a statewide
2 program called the "Ebony Alert System" referred to in this
3 section as the "system" to aid in the identification and
4 location of an abducted or missing Black youth.

5 2. For the purposes of this section, "abducted or
6 missing Black youth" means a Black individual whose
7 whereabouts are unknown and who is:

8 (1) Less than twenty-five years of age and reasonably
9 believed to be the victim of the offense of kidnapping or
10 kidnapping in the first degree as defined by section 565.110
11 as determined by local law enforcement;

12 (2) Reasonably believed to be the victim of the
13 offense of child kidnapping as defined by section 565.115 as
14 determined by local law enforcement;

15 (3) Less than twenty-five years of age and at least
16 fourteen years of age and who, if under the age of fourteen,
17 would otherwise be reasonably believed to be a victim of

18 child kidnapping as defined by section 565.115 as determined
19 by local law enforcement; or

20 (4) Reasonably believed to be a victim of an offense
21 of trafficking pursuant to sections 566.206, 566.209,
22 566.210, or 566.211.

23 3. The department of public safety shall develop
24 regions to provide the system. The department of public
25 safety shall coordinate local law enforcement agencies and
26 public commercial television and radio broadcasters to
27 provide an effective system. In the event that a local law
28 enforcement agency opts not to set up a system and an
29 abduction occurs within the jurisdiction, it shall notify
30 the department of public safety who shall notify local media
31 in the region.

32 4. The Ebony alert system shall include all state
33 agencies capable of providing urgent and timely information
34 to the public together with broadcasters and other private
35 entities that volunteer to participate in the dissemination
36 of urgent public information. At a minimum, the Ebony alert
37 system shall include the department of public safety,
38 highway patrol, department of transportation, department of
39 health and senior services, and Missouri lottery.

40 5. Participation in an Ebony alert system is entirely
41 at the option of local law enforcement agencies and
42 federally licensed radio and television broadcasters.

43 6. Any person who knowingly makes a false report that
44 triggers an alert pursuant to this section is guilty of a
45 class A misdemeanor.

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