

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 3802S.01I
Bill No.: SB 965
Subject: Children and Minors; Disabilities; Health Care; Emergencies; Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; Telecommunications
Type: Original
Date: January 16, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal creates the “Christian Taylor Ferguson (CFT)” Medical Alert System.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	(\$80,150)	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$80,150)	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on All Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§210.1015 - "Christian Taylor Ferguson" Medical Alert System

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety – Director’s Office (DPS-DO)** assume this proposal creates the Christian Taylor Ferguson Medical Alert system (CTF) within DPS.

Before July 1, 2027, DPS will coordinate with MSHP, MoDOT, DHSS, State Lottery and local law enforcement to:

- Develop training program
- Implement Alert system
- Establish policies and procedures
- Promulgate rules for the section

Staff will cover this alert system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Staff will also work with law enforcement agencies and broadcasters establishing and maintaining relationships in regard to this program. At this time, DPS DO does not know if a similar program at MSHP could also cover this program.

DPS-DO assumes 10 FTE will be required. In addition, DPS-DO assumes a cost of \$100,000 in FY 2027 for software and \$75,000 each year thereafter for software maintenance.

In response to similar legislation, SB 41 (2025), **Oversight** contacted DPS officials regarding their fiscal impact and the need for 10 FTE for this medical alert system. Officials stated 10 FTEs are needed because a new system will need to be built and administered by DPS. DPS is tasked with developing the regions in which the new alert system would be administered.

DPS intends to establish 9 regions to mirror the 9 troop regions established by the Missouri State Highway Patrol. 1 FTE is needed per region to comply with the requirements set forth in the proposed legislation. Further, DPS is tasked with coordinating with local law enforcement, public commercial television, radio broadcasters to provide an effective system. Also, because the legislation makes the participation by local law enforcement optional, DPS is then tasked with notification of all local media in the region when local law enforcement opts out of using the new system. As there is no requirement to make law enforcement agencies participate, DPS anticipates needing to have 1 FTE dedicated to each region which would cover multiple counties. Finally, there will need to be 1 FTE who is a program manager and supervisor. The manager/supervising FTE will also be responsible for creating and administering the rules for the implementation of this system as outlined in subsection 7.

Upon further inquiry, officials from **DPS-DO** noted this would also depend on MSHP's current system for these type of alerts on if their system could handle the program or if one needs to be produced and managed from DPS DO.

Oversight assumes local law enforcement agencies would opt to participate in this new alert system and the DPS-DO could assign the CTF alert system to the Highway Patrol (MHP). The way other alert systems work is the person reporting the endangered person goes to their local law enforcement agency. If the criteria the reporting person gives law enforcement meets the criteria for an alert to be issued, the law enforcement agency contacts the MHP and MHP "pushes" out the alert. Based on MHP's response (below), the MHP already has the infrastructure in place to support another alert system and would simply need one-time costs to build the new system. Therefore, for fiscal note purposes, Oversight assumes the DPS-DO does not need additional FTE to implement the provisions of this proposal.

Officials from the **Missouri Highway Patrol (MHP)** assume if the Highway Patrol is tasked with building this proposed system as is with the other alert systems in the state (Amber, Endangered Persons, Silver), there would be an associated cost. This cost is anticipated to come from the General Revenue Fund (0101). Initial costs for building the system and getting it to an operational status would be an estimated **\$80,150** (458 hours x \$175 per hour). There is no anticipated costs for ongoing maintenance with the system.

Oversight does not have information to the contrary and therefore, Oversight will reflect the estimates as provided by the MHP.

Officials from the **Office of the State Public Defender (SPD)** state per the National Public Defense Workload Study, the new charge contemplated by Section 210.1015 would take approximately twenty-two hours of SPD work for reasonably effective representation. If one hundred cases were filed under this section in a fiscal year, representation would result in a need for an additional attorney. Because the number of cases that will be filed under this statute is unknown, the exact additional number of attorneys necessary is unknown. Each case would also result in unknown increased costs in the need for core staff, travel and litigation expenses. However, if the charge was classified as a class D misdemeanor no jail time would be authorized and the cases would not qualify for SPD representation.

Oversight assumes this proposal will create a minimal number of new cases and that the SPD can absorb the additional caseload required by this proposal with current staff and resources. Therefore, Oversight will reflect no fiscal impact to the SPD for fiscal note purposes. However, if multiple bills pass which require additional staffing and duties, the SPD may request funding through the appropriation process.

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services**, **Department of Social Services**, **Missouri Department of Transportation**, **Office of the State Courts Administrator** and **Missouri Lottery Commission** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

In response to similar legislation, SB 41 (2025), officials from the **Missouri Office of Prosecution Services (MOPS)** assumed the proposal would have no measurable fiscal impact on MOPS. The enactment of a new crime (§210.1015.6) creates additional responsibilities for county prosecutors and the circuit attorney which may, in turn, result in additional costs, which are difficult to determine.

Oversight assumes MOPS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of activity each year. Oversight assumes MOPS could absorb the costs related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require additional staffing and duties at substantial costs, MOPS could request funding through the appropriation process.

Oversight notes the provisions of §210.1015.6 provide that a person who knowingly makes a false report that triggers an alert is guilty of a class A misdemeanor which carries a fine in addition to any individual county/municipal fees and court costs. The fine revenue for the ticket goes to local school funds and court costs go to various state and local funds. Oversight assumes there will be some (less than \$250,000) amount of fine revenue from violations of the statute. For simplicity, Oversight will not reflect the increased revenue from fines and court costs to various state funds and local political subdivisions.

Below are examples of some of the state and local funds which court costs are distributed to.

	Fee Amount
Basic Civil Legal Services Fund	\$8.00
Clerk Fee	\$15.00 (\$12 State/\$3 County)
County Fee	\$25.00
State Court Automation Fund	\$7.00
Crime Victims' Compensation Fund	\$7.50
DNA Profiling Analysis Fund	\$15.00
Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Fund	\$1.00
Motorcycle Safety Trust Fund	\$1.00
Brain Injury Fund	\$2.00
Independent Living Center Fund	\$1.00
Sheriff's Fee	\$10.00 (County)
Prosecuting Attorney and Circuit Attorney Training Fund	\$5.00
Prosecuting Attorney Training Fund	\$5.00 (\$2.50 State/\$2.50 County)
Spinal Cord Injury Fund	\$2.00

Officials from the **Phelps County Sheriff, Kansas City Police Department, Branson Police Department** and **St. Louis County Police Department** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other local law enforcement agencies were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assume this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
Cost – MHP (§210.1015) Establish alert system p.4	(\$80,150)	\$0	\$0
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	(\$80,150)	\$0	\$0

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact on small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This act creates the Christian Taylor Ferguson ("CTF") Medical Alert System to aid in identifying and locating a missing endangered person, defined as a person, including a child, who is missing under unexplained, involuntary, or suspicious circumstances and who is believed to be in danger because of a medical condition that requires immediate care, medication, or treatment.

The CTF Medical Alert System shall be set up and maintained in a manner similar to the Amber Alert System. The Department of Public Safety shall develop regions to provide the system and to coordinate local law enforcement agencies and public commercial television and radio broadcasters. The Department shall also administer and promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this act.

Persons knowingly making a false report to trigger an alert under this act shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Public Safety

 Director's Office

 Highway Patrol

Department of Health and Senior Services

Office of the State Public Defender

Department of Social Services

Missouri Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary of State

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

Missouri Lottery Commission

Phelps County Sheriff

L.R. No. 3802S.01I

Bill No. SB 965

Page 8 of 8

January 16, 2026

Kansas City Police Department
St. Louis County Police Department
Branson Police Department



Julie Morff
Director
January 16, 2026



Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
January 16, 2026