

SS SCS SB 30 -- Alert Missouri System

Sponsor: Gross

This substitute creates the Alert Missouri System to aid in the identification and location of abducted persons. An abducted person is one whose whereabouts are unknown and who is reasonably believed to be a victim of kidnaping. The Department of Public Safety will develop regions within the state for the program and will coordinate the program with local law enforcement agencies and broadcasters in each region. Participation in the system is optional for local law enforcement agencies and federally licensed radio and television broadcasters. If a local law enforcement agency decides not to participate and an abduction occurs in the jurisdiction, the local agency will notify the department, which will notify local media in the region.

The substitute requires the Alert Missouri System to include all state agencies capable of providing information to the public, as well as broadcasters and other entities who volunteer to disseminate urgent public information. The department has the authority to notify other regions upon verification that the criteria established by the Alert Missouri Oversight Committee have been met.

The substitute also establishes the Alert Missouri Oversight Committee within the department to develop criteria and procedures for the Alert Missouri System. The substitute specifies the members of the oversight committee.