

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1583

5 By: Representative Slape
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE A STATEWIDE "BLUE ALERT" SYSTEM;
9 CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
10

Subtitle

11 TO CREATE A STATEWIDE "BLUE ALERT"
12 SYSTEM; CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT.
13

14
15
16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 9, is amended to add an
20 additional subchapter to read as follows:
21

Subchapter 7 – Blue Alert System

12-9-701. Definitions.

22
23
24 As used in this subchapter, "law enforcement agency" means an agency
25 that has law enforcement authority and jurisdiction over an investigation of
26 an alleged offense that resulted in the death or serious physical injury of a
27 law enforcement officer.
28

12-9-702. Creation and administration.

29
30
31 (a) There is created a statewide alert system to be known as the Blue
32 Alert System designed to be activated in order to aid in the apprehension of
33 a person suspected of killing or causing serious bodily injury to a law
34 enforcement officer.

35 (b) The Blue Alert System shall be developed and implemented by the
36 Department of Public Safety in conjunction with existing alert protocols for



1 the state.

2
3 12-9-703. Adoption of protocols.

4 (a) The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety shall adopt
5 protocols to ensure proper implementation of the Blue Alert System.

6 (b) The protocols under this section shall include reporting criteria,
7 duration of alerts, and the following activation criteria:

8 (1) Confirmation that a law enforcement officer has:

9 (A) Sustained serious physical injury or has been killed;

10 or

11 (B) Gone missing while on duty under circumstances
12 warranting concern for the law enforcement officer's safety;

13 (2) Notification whether a suspect has been apprehended or not;

14 and

15 (3) Sufficient descriptive information about the suspect or the
16 circumstances surrounding the law enforcement officer's serious physical
17 injury, death, or disappearance to indicate that activation of the Blue Alert
18 System may help locate a suspect or the missing law enforcement officer.