

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to missing persons; amending ss.
 3 937.021 and 937.022, F.S.; revising provisions
 4 concerning missing children and adults to include
 5 references to the National Missing and Unidentified
 6 Persons System; providing an effective date.

7
 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9
 10 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and subsections
 11 (2) and (4) of section 937.021, Florida Statutes, are amended to
 12 read:

13 937.021 Missing child and missing adult reports.—

14 (1) Law enforcement agencies in this state shall adopt
 15 written policies that specify the procedures to be used to
 16 investigate reports of missing children and missing adults. The
 17 policies must ensure that cases involving missing children and
 18 adults are investigated promptly using appropriate resources.
 19 The policies must include:

20 (c) Standards for maintaining and clearing computer data
 21 of information concerning a missing child or missing adult which
 22 is stored in the Florida Crime Information Center, ~~and~~ the
 23 National Crime Information Center, and the National Missing and
 24 Unidentified Persons System. The standards must require, at a
 25 minimum, a monthly review of each case and a determination of

26 | whether the case should be maintained in the database.

27 | (2) An entry concerning a missing child or missing adult
28 | may not be removed from the Florida Crime Information Center, ~~or~~
29 | the National Crime Information Center, or the National Missing
30 | and Unidentified Persons System databases based solely on the
31 | age of the missing child or missing adult.

32 | (4)(a) Upon the filing of a police report that a child is
33 | missing by the parent or guardian, the Department of Children
34 | and Families, a community-based care provider, or a sheriff's
35 | office providing investigative services for the department, the
36 | law enforcement agency receiving the report shall immediately
37 | inform all on-duty law enforcement officers of the missing child
38 | report, communicate the report to every other law enforcement
39 | agency having jurisdiction in the county, and within 2 hours
40 | after receipt of the report, transmit the report for inclusion
41 | within the Florida Crime Information Center, ~~and~~ the National
42 | Crime Information Center, and the National Missing and
43 | Unidentified Persons System databases. A law enforcement agency
44 | may not require a reporter to present an order that a child be
45 | taken into custody or any other such order before accepting a
46 | report that a child is missing.

47 | (b) Upon the filing of a credible police report that an
48 | adult is missing, the law enforcement agency receiving the
49 | report shall, within 2 hours after receipt of the report,
50 | transmit the report for inclusion within the Florida Crime

51 Information Center, ~~and~~ the National Crime Information Center,
52 and the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System
53 databases.

54 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and subsection
55 (5) of section 937.022, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

56 937.022 Missing Endangered Persons Information
57 Clearinghouse.—

58 (3) The clearinghouse shall:

59 (b) Provide a centralized file for the exchange of
60 information on missing endangered persons.

61 1. Every state, county, or municipal law enforcement
62 agency shall submit to the clearinghouse information concerning
63 missing endangered persons.

64 2. Any person having knowledge may submit a missing
65 endangered person report to the clearinghouse concerning a child
66 or adult younger than 26 years of age whose whereabouts is
67 unknown, regardless of the circumstances, subsequent to
68 reporting such child or adult missing to the appropriate law
69 enforcement agency within the county in which the child or adult
70 became missing, and subsequent to entry by the law enforcement
71 agency of the child or person into the Florida Crime Information
72 Center, ~~and~~ the National Crime Information Center, and the
73 National Missing and Unidentified Persons System databases. The
74 missing endangered person report shall be included in the
75 clearinghouse database.

76 3. Only the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction
77 over the case may submit a missing endangered person report to
78 the clearinghouse involving a missing adult age 26 years or
79 older who is suspected by a law enforcement agency of being
80 endangered or the victim of criminal activity.

81 4. Only the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction
82 over the case may make a request to the clearinghouse for the
83 activation of a state Silver Alert or a Purple Alert involving a
84 missing adult if circumstances regarding the disappearance have
85 met the criteria for activation of the Silver Alert Plan or the
86 Purple Alert.

87 (5) The law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over a
88 case involving a missing endangered person shall, upon locating
89 the child or adult, immediately purge information about the case
90 from the Florida Crime Information Center, ~~or~~ the National Crime
91 Information Center, and the National Missing and Unidentified
92 Persons System databases and notify the clearinghouse.

93 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.