

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE DRH50445-SQ-24 (03/06)

Short Title: Clarify Silver Alert-All Ages.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Mobley.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO CLARIFY A SILVER ALERT MAY BE ISSUED FOR A PERSON OF ANY  
3 AGE WHO IS BELIEVED TO BE SUFFERING FROM DEMENTIA OR OTHER  
4 COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 143B-499.8 reads as rewritten:

7 "**§ 143B-499.8. North Carolina Silver Alert System established.**

8 (a) There is established within the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons the Silver  
9 Alert System. The purpose of the Silver Alert System is to provide a statewide system for the  
10 rapid dissemination of information regarding a missing person who is believed to be suffering  
11 from dementia or other cognitive impairment.

12 (b) If the Center receives a report that involves a missing person who is believed to be  
13 suffering from dementia or other cognitive impairment, for the protection of the missing person  
14 from potential abuse or other physical harm, neglect, or exploitation, the Center shall issue an  
15 alert providing for rapid dissemination of information statewide regarding the missing person.  
16 The Center shall make every effort to disseminate the information as quickly as possible when  
17 the person's status as missing has been reported to a law enforcement agency.

18 (c) The Center shall adopt guidelines and develop procedures for issuing an alert for  
19 missing persons believed to be suffering from dementia or other cognitive impairment and shall  
20 provide education and training to encourage radio and television broadcasters to participate in  
21 the alert. The guidelines and procedures shall ensure that specific health information about the  
22 missing person is not made public through the alert or otherwise.

23 (d) The Center shall consult with the Department of Transportation and develop a  
24 procedure for the use of overhead permanent changeable message signs to provide information  
25 on the missing ~~adult~~ person meeting the criteria of this section when information is available  
26 that would enable motorists to assist in the recovery of the missing person. The Center and the  
27 Department of Transportation shall develop guidelines for the content, length, and frequency of  
28 any message to be placed on an overhead permanent changeable message sign."

29 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

