

SENATE BILL NO. 67

INTRODUCED BY C. LARSEN

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO MISSING PERSONS; AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF "MISSING CHILD" TO INCLUDE PERSONS UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE; REQUIRING LAW ENFORCEMENT TO INFORM ALL ON-DUTY OFFICERS AND TO ENTER THE MISSING CHILD REPORT INTO THE NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION CENTER SYSTEM WITHIN 2 HOURS OF THE REPORT; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 44-2-502 AND 44-2-505, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 44-2-502, MCA, is amended to read:

**"44-2-502. Definitions.** As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Missing child" means any person who has been reported as missing to a law enforcement authority

and:

(a) who is under ~~18~~ 21 years of age;

(b) whose temporary or permanent residence is in Montana or is believed to be in Montana; and

(c) whose location has not been determined.

(2) "Missing child report" ~~is~~ means a report prepared on a form designed by the department of justice for use by private citizens and law enforcement authorities to report information about missing children to the missing children information program provided for in 44-2-503."

**Section 2.** Section 44-2-505, MCA, is amended to read:

**"44-2-505. Duties of law enforcement authority.** Whenever a parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a child files a report with a law enforcement authority that the child is missing, the law enforcement authority shall within 2 hours of the report:

(1) ~~immediately~~ inform all on-duty law enforcement officers of the existence of the missing child report;

(2) communicate the report to all other law enforcement authorities having jurisdiction in the county; and

(3) ~~immediately~~ enter the missing child report into the national crime information center computer

1 system."

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