

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1583

By: Representative Slape

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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

### Subtitle

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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

#### Subchapter 7 – Blue Alert System

##### 12-9-701. Definitions.

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

##### 12-9-702. Creation and administration.

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

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



the state.

12-9-703. Adoption of protocols.

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

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

(1) Confirmation that a law enforcement officer has:

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

or

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

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

and

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