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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 989 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY MURT, BARRAR, BROWNLEE, COHEN, D. COSTA, CRUZ,  
DAVIS, DEASY, DRISCOLL, DUSH, ELLIS, GRELL, KINSEY, KORTZ,  
LONGIETTI, MILLARD, O'BRIEN, READSHAW, SAMUELSON, SIMMONS,  
SONNEY AND TOEPEL, APRIL 20, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 20, 2015

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 24, 2004 (P.L.1270, No.153),  
2 entitled "An act providing for the Pennsylvania Amber Alert  
3 System; authorizing and directing the Pennsylvania State  
4 Police to establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Amber Alert  
5 System; assessing costs; and providing for immunity and  
6 penalties," establishing the Pennsylvania Blue Alert System  
7 for the protection of the public and the apprehension of a  
8 person of immediate threat.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The title of the act of November 24, 2004  
12 (P.L.1270, No.153), referred to as the Pennsylvania Amber Alert  
13 System Law, is amended to read:

14 AN ACT

15 Providing for the Pennsylvania Amber Alert System, the Missing  
16 Endangered Person Advisory System and the Pennsylvania Blue  
17 Alert System; authorizing and directing the Pennsylvania  
18 State Police to establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Amber  
19 Alert System; assessing costs; and providing for immunity and  
20 penalties.

1 Section 2. Section 1 of the act, amended November 23, 2010  
2 (P.L.1363, No.126), is amended to read:

3 Section 1. Pennsylvania Amber Alert System [and], Missing  
4 Endangered Person Advisory System (MEPAS) and  
5 Pennsylvania Blue Alert System established.

6 (a) Pennsylvania Amber Alert System.--The Pennsylvania State  
7 Police shall establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Amber Alert  
8 System to assist in the recovery of abducted children through  
9 prompt notification to the general public, appropriate law  
10 enforcement authorities and other public agencies.

11 (b) Missing Endangered Person Advisory System (MEPAS).--The  
12 Pennsylvania State Police shall establish and maintain the  
13 Missing Endangered Person Advisory System to assist in the  
14 recovery of missing persons who are at special risk of harm or  
15 injury, through prompt notification to the general public,  
16 appropriate law enforcement authorities and other agencies.

17 (c) Pennsylvania Blue Alert System.--The Pennsylvania State  
18 Police shall establish and maintain the Pennsylvania Blue Alert  
19 System to assist in the protection of the public and the  
20 apprehension of a person of immediate threat, as identified by  
21 the Pennsylvania State Police, who may have been involved in the  
22 injury or death of a law enforcement officer, through prompt  
23 notification to the general public, appropriate law enforcement  
24 authorities and other public agencies.

25 Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:  
26 Section 2.2. Use of Pennsylvania Blue Alert System.

27 The Pennsylvania Blue Alert System shall be operated by the  
28 Pennsylvania State Police. Activation may be requested by a law  
29 enforcement agency if notification of the public is considered  
30 prudent for the protection of the public and the immediate need

1 for apprehension of a person identified by the Pennsylvania  
2 State Police as posing an immediate threat to the public.

3 Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.