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## MISSING CHILDREN

House Bill 4482

Sponsor: Rep. Michelle McManus

Committee: Human Services

Complete to 3-1-95

### A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4482 AS INTRODUCED 2-28-95

Currently, the uniform crime reporting system act (Public Act 319 of 1968) requires law enforcement agencies to do certain things when they receive reports about certain missing people (including missing children), dead bodies, or people whose identity is unknown and can't readily be determined. The law enforcement agency receiving the report must conduct a preliminary investigation and immediately enter certain information into one (or both) of two databases (the National Crime Information Center and the Law Enforcement Information Network [LEIN]). In some cases, the law enforcement agencies receiving missing persons reports also may broadcast certain information to other law enforcement agencies over the LEIN.

The bill would amend the act to create a missing child information clearinghouse in the Department of State Police and to require that when children were reported as missing (or when unidentified and not immediately identifiable children or their bodies were found) information be entered into the clearinghouse as well as into the existing two required databases. To the extent that money was available, the bill also would require the department to establish services to help in locating missing children.

The Missing Child Information Clearinghouse. The Department of State Police would administer the clearinghouse as a central repository of information about missing children, and the director of the department would designate someone to supervise it. The clearinghouse would provide a centralized file for exchanging information on missing children in Michigan and would have to do all of the following:

- \* Record each report on a missing child received under the act's reporting requirements.
- \* Accept and record reports from law enforcement agencies about missing children.
- \* Exchange information with the National Crime Information Center on children suspected of interstate travel.
- \* Establish a policy on compiling a record of reasons children become missing.

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Required information. Currently, the information required to be entered into the LEIN and the National Crime Information Center includes all of the following, if available: the person's name and address and such vital statistics as a physical description; the date he or she was missing; and any other information the state police and the LEIN policy council determine could help in locating the person. In addition, if the missing person is a child, the required information must include the child's date and state of birth, the date he or she will turn 17 years old, and, if possible, the mother's maiden name. The bill would require that all of this information be entered into the clearinghouse in addition to being entered into the LEIN and the National Crime Information Center.

Currently, also, if a missing person hasn't been found within 30 days, the law enforcement agency that originally received the missing person report must try to get the missing person's dental records and must then enter information from the dental records into the National Crime Information Center. Under the bill, if the missing person was a child, information on dental records also would have to be entered into the clearinghouse.

Broadcasting information to other law enforcement agencies. Currently, the law enforcement agency receiving a report of a missing person may broadcast information about the missing person over the LEIN to certain other law enforcement agencies (those having jurisdiction where the missing person lived or was last seen, those that potentially could become involved in locating the missing person, and those that the individual who reported the missing person requested the information be sent to). Under the bill, law enforcement agencies receiving a report of a missing child would be required, subject to the policy established by the clearinghouse, to broadcast information about the missing child over the LEIN to these other law enforcement agencies.

Location of missing children. A child's record would be removed from the clearinghouse when the clearinghouse received reliable information (from the law enforcement agency that had originally reported the missing child) that the child had been located. Law enforcement agencies that had originally reported a child as missing would be required to immediately report to the clearinghouse information the agency had about the location of that child.

Departmental powers. The Department of State Police would be able to audit law enforcement agency records as necessary to determine compliance with the bill's requirements. Law enforcement agencies would have to comply with reasonable requests from the department in carrying out the bill's requirements and in otherwise administering the clearinghouse.

MCL 28.258 and 28.259