



HOUSE BILL 698: Center for Missing Persons to Highway Patrol.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	May 6, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Miller, Pyrtle	Prepared by:	Brad Krehely
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 698 would transfer the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons to the State Highway Patrol and create new categories of alerts.*

CURRENT LAW:

The North Carolina Center for Missing Persons is currently located in the Department of Public Safety.

Effective July 1, 2025, the State Highway Patrol will become a separate, independent State department, and will be separate from the Department of Public Safety.

BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 698 would transfer the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons (Center) to the State Highway Patrol (SHP) on July 1, 2025, when the SHP becomes an independent State department.

The bill would also make the following changes and additions to the types of missing person alerts used by the Center:

- Modify the "Amber Alert" which applies to abducted children 17 or younger, to require the child to be believed to have been abducted and to be in danger of injury or death.
- Rename the current "Missing Endangered System" as a "Silver Alert" which would apply to missing persons aged 65 or older believed to be suffering from diminished faculties.
- Create the "Missing Endangered Alert" which would apply to missing persons aged 64 or younger believed to be suffering from diminished faculties.
- Create the "Ashanti Alert" which would apply to missing persons over 18 that are suspected to have been abducted and there is both abductor and vehicle information available.
- Create the "Missing-Weather Alert" which would apply to missing persons of any age that are missing during times of extreme heat or cold and are not in a vehicle or missing immediately following a significant weather event.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective July 1, 2025.

*Susan Sitze, Staff Attorney for the Legislative Analysis Division, contributed substantially to this summary.

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