

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 959

## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH (68).

2161H.01I

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

### AN ACT

To amend chapter 85, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to missing persons.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 85, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 85.705, to read as follows:

- 85.705. 1. Beginning January 1, 2026, a missing persons unit shall be established within any police department located in a county with more than one million inhabitants. The unit shall provide services deemed necessary to aid in the location of missing persons including, but not limited to:**
- (1) Coordinating and investigating reports of missing persons;**
  - (2) Collecting and disseminating information regarding missing persons in order to assist in locating such persons, including entry of the missing person's information into the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system;**
  - (3) Establishing a system for communication of information relating to persons reported as missing; and**
  - (4) Coordinating and communicating with the Missouri state highway patrol's missing persons unit established under section 43.402.**
- 2. Any police department located in a county with more than one million inhabitants may hire additional officers and staff or may assign officers or staff currently employed by the department to the missing persons unit. Compensation and**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **benefits for such employees shall be paid from the police department's annual operating**  
18 **budget.**

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