

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 4186S.07T  
 Bill No.: Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed SS No. 2 for SCS for HCS for HB 1840  
 Subject: Autism; Children and Minors; Disabilities; Emergencies; Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; Lotteries; Mental Health; Motor Vehicles; Department of Public Safety; Department of Revenue; Department of Transportation  
 Type: Original  
 Date: June 26, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal establishes an alert system to assist in the location of missing persons with developmental disabilities.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND**

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	(\$1,315,740 to Could exceed \$1,695,159)	(\$455,496 to Could exceed \$861,539)	(\$459,796 to Could exceed \$869,006)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$1,315,740 to Could exceed \$1,695,159)</b>	<b>(\$455,496 to Could exceed \$861,539)</b>	<b>(\$459,796 to Could exceed \$869,006)</b>

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS**

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Communication Access Service Fund*	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\*Distributions and transfers net to zero.

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS**

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)**

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
Communication Access Services Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>2 FTE</b>	<b>2 FTE</b>	<b>2 FTE</b>

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS**

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §161.412 – Grants for Deaf-Blind Individuals and Families

Officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume §161.412 removes the \$300,000 cap but is still subject to appropriation. Appropriation beyond the current \$300,000 cap may require additional FTE if the Requests For Proposal results in an increased number of reviews conducted and grants to be administered. No additional FTE is calculated at this time.

**Oversight** assumes this proposal removes the \$300,000 cap on the total amount of grants.

Oversight notes program expenditure history has approached the \$300,000 cap. Oversight notes, based on information found in DESE’s FY 2027 Program book, the projected expenditure for FY 2026 will reach the cap. Therefore, Oversight assumes if the proposal removes the cap, more money could be requested through the appropriation process. However, it is unknown how much the increase would amount to. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a \$0 (no additional increase) or unknown cost to General Revenue. Based on expenditure history, Oversight does not anticipate the allowed increase in grants to exceed the \$250,000 threshold but notes the grants are subject to appropriation.

Oversight has provided the program expenditure history as noted in the DESE FY 2027 Program Book.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Appropriation</b>	<b>Program Expenditure</b>
2023	\$300,000	(\$284,401)
2024	\$300,000	(\$284,392)
2025	\$300,000	(\$232,689)
2026 (Projected)	\$300,000	(\$300,000)

In response to similar legislation, HB 1308 (2025), officials from **East Buchanan Co. C-1 School District** assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

#### §209.247 – Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Statewide Registry

Officials from the **DESE** assume §209.247 calls for the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MCDHH) to develop and maintain a statewide registry of communication access service providers, provide information regarding available resources to assist with costs and support to communication access service providers, hire a program manager to fulfill the requirements of this legislation, and subject to appropriation, administer scholarships for

professional development and administer finance requests for communication access services between individuals who are deaf, blind, or hard of hearing. DESE assumes the requirements of this legislation will require a program manager FTE position with an annual salary of \$100,901 and an ongoing cost of \$13,779 and one-time cost of \$5,082 for expenses and equipment.

In addition to this FTE, DESE assumes it will cost between \$208,000 to \$400,000 to administer the program called for in this legislation. This estimate is based on programs in other states ranging from \$200,000 to \$700,000. The Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing identified four major regions in Missouri that would participate in the services listed: Kansas City, St. Louis, Columbia, and Springfield. In each region there are currently one 1–2-hour appointments per day that cost approximately \$200 to cover or \$800 to cover all four appointments. Thus, DESE estimates the cost of the administration of services by multiplying \$800 \* 261 business days equaling \$208,000. However, DESE also recognizes that with more access the number of appointments could increase thus reflecting the range in costs.

Lastly, the Commission believes the scholarships called for in this legislation would cost \$10,000 based on current scholarships to attend specialized programming and training opportunities ranging from \$50 to \$2,000, depending on the training, with most opportunities being around \$500. Thus, \$10,000 could cover the costs of 50 recipients for professional development in the field of communication services.

The demand for services, and increasing demand as program awareness expands, is potentially significant. The department is minimally calculating an impact of \$379,420, plus expenses outlined by ITSD (\$503,496 in FY 2027, \$103,217 in FY 2028 and \$105,797 in FY 2029).

**Oversight** notes this proposal creates the Communication Access Services Fund; upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used by the commission for the salary of the program manager, distribution of financial assistance for communication access services, and distribution of scholarships under this section.

Oversight will reflect the costs as estimated by DESE. Oversight notes this proposal is subject to appropriation. Oversight notes the Communication Access Services Fund can receive gifts, donations, grants, and bequests. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero to unknown income for the fund.

#### §301.287 – Persons with Impaired or Limited Ability to Communicate with Law Enforcement (Mason’s Law)

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety – Director’s Office (DPS-DO)** assume this proposal requires DPS to develop a training program for law enforcement officers. DPS-DO has indicated the FTE proposed for §650.535 could also accomplish this program; therefore, **Oversight** will reflect the FTE under §650.535.

Officials from the **Department of Revenue (DOR)** assume the following regarding this proposal:

Administrative Impact

To implement the proposed language the department will be required to:

- Design a new form
- Update the department's website
- Create correspondence letters
- Create procedures
- Train department staff

Because of the limited timeframe between the proposed language's effective date and the anticipated integration of motor vehicle processes into the FUSION system, implementation of this bill will coincide with the launch of the modernized system.

FY 2027 – Motor Vehicle Bureau

Associate Research/Data Analyst 150 hrs. @ \$31.16/hr. =\$4,674

Research/Data Analyst 50 hrs. @ \$37.14/hr. =\$1,857

Administrative Manager 40 hrs. @ \$51.40/hr. =\$2,056

FY 2027 – Strategy & Communications Office

Associate Research/Data Analyst 40 hrs. @ \$31.16/hr. =\$1,246

Research/Data Analyst 50 hrs. @ \$37.14/hr. =\$1,857

Total = \$11,690

**Oversight** assumes DOR will use existing staff and will not hire additional FTE to conduct these activities; therefore, Oversight will not reflect the administrative costs DOR has indicated on the fiscal note.

FUSION Impact

**DOR** notes: 500 hours of Development + 500 hours of Testing @ \$225/hr. = **\$225,000**

Development includes:

- Integrate disability status into existing vehicle registration transactions (new registration, renewal, registration correction)
- New standalone transaction to allow adding/modifying/renewing the disability status
- eService request to add/update/remove/renew
- Define system rules for reapplication letter
- Updates to MULES interface

The fiscal impact estimated above is based on changes in the current Department's Motor Vehicle system environment. The implementation of this legislation will be coordinated with the integration of the Department's Motor Vehicle and Driver Licensing software system approved and passed by the General Assembly in 2020 (Senate Bill 176). To avoid duplicative technology development and associated costs to the state, it is recommended a delayed effective date be added to this bill to correlate with the installation of the new system.

**Oversight** does not have information to the contrary and therefore, Oversight will reflect the FUSION estimate as provided by DOR.

§650.535 – Purple Alert System (RJ’s Law)

Officials from the **DPS-DO** assume this proposal creates the Purple Alert system within DPS.

Before July 1, 2027, DPS will coordinate with MSHP, MoDOT, DHSS, state lottery and local law enforcement to:

- Develop training program
- Implement Alert system
- Establish policies and procedures
- Promulgate rules for the section

DPS-DO assumes they will require one (1) Benefit Program Specialist (\$53,315 annually) and software costs of \$500,000 in FY 2027 in addition to \$250,000 per year thereafter for software maintenance.

**Oversight** assumes local law enforcement agencies would opt to participate in this new alert system and the DPS-DO could assign the Purple Alert system to the Missouri Highway Patrol (MHP). The way other alert systems work is the person reporting the endangered person goes to their local law enforcement agency. If the criteria the reporting person gives law enforcement meets the criteria for an alert to be issued, the law enforcement agency contacts the MHP and MHP “pushes” out the alert. The MHP notes they already have the infrastructure in place to support another alert system. Therefore, for fiscal note purposes, Oversight assumes the DPS-DO does not need additional FTE to implement the provisions of this proposal.

Responses regarding the proposed legislation as a whole

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Safety-Missouri Highway Patrol, Department of Social Services, Missouri Department of Transportation, Office of the State Treasurer, Missouri Lottery Commission, Missouri House of Representatives, Missouri Senate, Phelps County Sheriff, Kansas City Police Department, Branson Police Department and St. Louis County Police Department** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other school districts and local law enforcement agencies were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

### Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assume this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Cost</u> - (\$161.412) Removal of the cap on grant appropriation p.3	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)
<u>Cost</u> – DESE (§209.247) OA-ITSD services p.4	(\$503,496)	(\$103,217)	(\$105,797)
<u>Cost</u> - DOR (§301.287) FUSION p.6	(\$225,000)	\$0	\$0
<u>Cost</u> - DPS-DO (§§301.287 & 650.535) p.6-7			
Personal Services	(\$44,429)	(\$54,381)	(\$55,469)
Fringe Benefits	(\$31,483)	(\$38,208)	(\$38,646)
Expense and Equipment	(\$9,917)	(\$9,690)	(\$9,884)
<b>Total Costs - DPS-DO</b>	<b>(\$85,829)</b>	<b>(\$102,279)</b>	<b>(\$103,999)</b>
FTE Change – DPS-DO	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<u>Cost</u> - DPS-DO (§§301.287 & 650.535) Software and maintenance p.6-7	(\$501,415)	(\$250,000)	(\$250,000)
<u>Transfer Out</u> - DESE (§209.247) Communication Access Fund p.4-5	\$0 or (Could exceed \$379,419)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$406,043)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$409,210)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b>(\$1,315,740 to Could exceed \$1,695,159)</b>	<b>(\$455,496 to Could exceed \$861,539)</b>	<b>(\$459,796 to Could exceed \$869,006)</b>
Estimated Net FTE Change on General Revenue	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<b>COMMUNICATION ACCESS SERVICES FUND</b>			
<u>Transfer In</u> - (§209.247) Appropriation from General Revenue p.4-5	\$0 or Could exceed \$379,419	\$0 or Could exceed \$406,043	\$0 or Could exceed \$409,210

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
<u>Revenue - (\$209.247) Gifts, bequests or donations p.4-5</u>	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown
<u>Cost – DESE (§209.247) p.4-5</u>	\$0 or	\$0 or	\$0 or
Personal Service	(\$84,084)	(\$102,919)	(\$104,977)
Fringe Benefits	(\$47,432)	(\$57,730)	(\$58,558)
Expense & Equipment	(\$16,564)	(\$14,055)	(\$14,336)
<u>Total Costs – DESE</u>	<u>(\$148,080)</u>	<u>(\$174,704)</u>	<u>(\$177,871)</u>
FTE Change – DESE	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<u>Cost – DESE (§209.247) Scholarships p.4-5</u>	\$0 or (\$10,000)	\$0 or (\$10,000)	\$0 or (\$10,000)
<u>Cost – DESE (§209.247) Outreach and training p.4-5</u>	(\$13,339)	(\$13,339)	(\$13,339)
<u>Cost – DESE (§209.247) Program Administration p.4-5</u>	\$0 or (Could Exceed <u>\$208,000</u> )	\$0 or (Could Exceed <u>\$208,000</u> )	\$0 or (Could Exceed <u>\$208,000</u> )
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON COMMUNICATION ACCESS SERVICES FUND</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
Estimated Net FTE Change on the Communication Access Servies Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact on small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill relates to communications involving persons with disabilities.

MISSOURI COMMISSION OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING (SECTIONS 161.412 and 209.247)

Current law governs provisions on grants provided by the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, with a cap on the total amount of grants of no more than \$300,000 annually. This bill repeals that annual cap.

Under this bill, the Commission must establish a statewide communication access services program to improve compliance with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act for agencies and businesses by coordinating resources, filling service gaps, and assisting with costs related to accommodations. The Commission will develop a statewide registry of service providers, create a process for communication access service, establish training and equipment standards, maintain an informational website, provide training, conduct outreach, and submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly, as described in the bill. The Commission will also, subject to appropriation, finance requests for assistance in providing communication access services and administer scholarships for professional development, internships, and certification testing.

The bill creates the "Communication Access Services Fund" which will be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the Fund will be used by the Commission for the salary of the program manager, distribution of financial assistance for communication access services, and distribution of scholarships under this bill.

MASON'S LAW (Sections 301.287 and B)

This bill establishes "Mason's Law".

Beginning January 1, 2027, a Missouri resident with a health condition or disability that limits or impairs their ability to effectively communicate with law enforcement may apply to the Department of Revenue for a designation associated with their motor vehicle license plate number.

The application for the designation will be on a form developed by the Department and signed by a physician or psychologist, as described in the bill, certifying that the applicant or the applicant's child, parent, or spouse has a physical or mental health condition that is likely to impair the ability to communicate effectively with law enforcement and that such impairment will persist for at least five years. The Highway Patrol must make an entry in the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES) concerning the designation and such entry will remain active for five years unless reactivated. The application must be made on a form prescribed by the Department of Revenue and must be signed by a physician, certifying that the applicant or their child, parent, or spouse has such a condition or disability and will have the condition or disability for at least five years.

This bill requires the Department of Revenue to prepare an entry in the Department's records that indicates the applicant or the applicant's child, parent, or spouse has a physical or mental health

condition that may impair the ability to effectively communicate with law enforcement. The entry will be accessible by law enforcement through MULES. The entry as it relates to the applicant's driver's license will remain active until the expiration of the driver's license and the entry as it relates to the applicant's motor vehicle license plate will remain active for five years unless the applicant requests its removal from the Department's records. The entry in MULES may be reactivated for another period of five years upon submission of a renewal form signed by a physician meeting the same requirements as the original application.

The Department of Public Safety will issue guidance and education materials to all law enforcement agencies in this state to promote awareness of the designation established in this bill.

These provisions regarding Mason's Law will be effective as soon as the technology is available to implement these provisions.

#### PURPLE ALERT SYSTEM (Section 650.535)

This bill establishes "RJ's Law." The bill creates within the Department of Public Safety a program called the "Purple Alert System" to aid in the identification and location of missing persons with "developmental disabilities", as defined in the bill, whose disappearance poses a credible threat of immediate danger or serious bodily harm to themselves. Prior to July 1, 2027, the Department must, along with the State Highway Patrol, Department of Transportation, Department of Health and Senior Services, the State lottery, and local law enforcement, develop a training program and alert system for missing persons with developmental disabilities that is compatible with the State's existing alert systems and establish policies and procedures for responding to a reported missing person emergency for missing persons with developmental disabilities. The Department of Public safety will administer and create rules for the implementation of the alert system.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health and Senior Services  
Department of Mental Health  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Department of Revenue  
Department of Public Safety  
    Director's Office  
    Missouri Highway Patrol  
Department of Social Services  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
Missouri Department of Transportation

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Office of the State Treasurer  
Missouri House of Representatives  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
Missouri Senate  
Missouri Lottery Commission  
Phelps County Sheriff  
Branson Police Department  
St. Louis County Police Department  
Kansas City Police Department  
East Buchanan Co. C-1 School District



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June 26, 2026



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