

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 1840

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4186S.04C

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapters 301 and 650, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to law enforcement interaction with persons with disabilities.

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

Section A. Chapters 301 and 650, RSMo, are amended by
2 adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 301.287
3 and 650.535, to read as follows:

301.287. 1. This section shall be known and referred
2 to as "Mason's Law".

3 2. Beginning January 1, 2027, a resident of this state
4 with a health condition or disability that limits or impairs
5 the ability to effectively communicate with law enforcement
6 may, at any time, apply to the department of revenue for a
7 designation that shall be associated with the person's motor
8 vehicle license plate number and available to law
9 enforcement under the Missouri uniform law enforcement
10 system (MULES) established under chapter 43.

11 3. The initial application, which shall be on a form
12 prescribed by the department and made available on the
13 department's website, shall be signed by a physician
14 licensed under chapter 334, or a psychologist licensed under
15 chapter 337, certifying that:

16 (1) The applicant or the applicant's child, parent, or
17 spouse has a physical or mental health condition that is
18 likely to impair the ability to effectively communicate with
19 law enforcement; and

20 (2) The physician or psychologist has determined that
21 the applicant or the applicant's child, parent, or spouse
22 will have the communication impairment for at least five
23 years.

24 4. Upon submission of an application and approval by
25 the department, the department shall notify the Missouri
26 state highway patrol of the resident's approved application
27 and the highway patrol shall prepare an entry in the
28 Missouri uniform law enforcement system (MULES) that
29 indicates that the applicant or the applicant's child,
30 parent, or spouse has a physical or mental health condition
31 that may impair the ability to effectively communicate with
32 law enforcement. Such entry shall remain active for a
33 period of five years, unless the applicant requests that
34 such designation be removed from the system. Upon
35 expiration of the five-year period, the designation in MULES
36 may be reactivated upon the filing of a renewal form with
37 the department signed by a physician licensed under chapter
38 334, or a psychologist licensed under chapter 337,
39 certifying that:

40 (1) The applicant or the applicant's child, parent, or
41 spouse has a physical or mental health condition that is
42 likely to impair the ability to effectively communicate with
43 law enforcement; and

44 (2) The physician or psychologist has determined that
45 the applicant or the applicant's child, parent, or spouse
46 will have the communication impairment for at least five
47 years.

48 5. The department of public safety shall issue
49 guidance and education materials to all law enforcement
50 agencies in this state to promote awareness of the
51 designation established under this section.

52 6. The department of revenue may promulgate all
53 necessary rules and regulations for the administration of
54 this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term
55 is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the
56 authority delegated in this section shall become effective
57 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the
58 provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section
59 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and
60 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
61 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
62 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
63 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
64 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,
65 2026, shall be invalid and void.

 650.535. 1. This section shall be known and may be
2 cited as "RJ's Law".

3 2. There is hereby created within the department of
4 public safety a statewide program called the "Purple Alert
5 System" to aid in the identification and location of missing
6 persons with developmental disabilities whose disappearance
7 poses a credible threat of immediate danger or serious
8 bodily harm to the missing persons through immediate and
9 effective community and emergency response.

10 3. For purposes of this section, "developmental
11 disability" includes the following:

12 (1) A mental or cognitive disability, which shall not
13 include, for persons sixty years of age or older,
14 Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-related disorder;

- 15 (2) An intellectual disability;
- 16 (3) A brain injury;
- 17 (4) Other physical, mental, or emotional disabilities
- 18 that are not related to substance abuse; or
- 19 (5) Any combination of such conditions.

20 4. Before July 1, 2027, the department of public

21 safety, in cooperation with the Missouri state highway

22 patrol, department of transportation, department of health

23 and senior services, the state lottery, and local law

24 enforcement agencies shall:

25 (1) Develop a training program and alert system for

26 missing persons who have developmental disabilities that is

27 compatible with existing alert systems in the state. The

28 training program shall implement crisis intervention team

29 training to equip law enforcement officers with the skills

30 necessary to understand developmental disabilities, to de-

31 escalate interactions with persons in crisis, to facilitate

32 appropriate interventions, and to respond effectively to a

33 reported missing person emergency when the person has a

34 developmental disability;

35 (2) Establish policies and procedures for responding

36 to a reported missing person emergency when the person has a

37 developmental disability. The policies shall, at a minimum,

38 provide for the following:

39 (a) Immediate and widespread dissemination of critical

40 information when a person who has a developmental disability

41 is reported missing;

42 (b) Enhancement of emergency response teams'

43 competence by informing them of the unique behaviors and

44 needs of persons with developmental disabilities; and

45 (c) Measures to increase public awareness and

46 understanding of the risks associated with developmental

47 disability-related elopement to foster community support for
48 persons with developmental disabilities; and

49 (3) Require a law enforcement agency to do the
50 following, at a minimum, upon receiving a report:

51 (a) Contact media outlets in the affected area or
52 surrounding jurisdictions;

53 (b) Inform all on-duty law enforcement officers of the
54 reported missing person with a developmental disability; and

55 (c) Communicate the report to all other law
56 enforcement agencies in the counties surrounding the county
57 in which the report is filed.

58 5. The department of public safety shall administer
59 and promulgate rules for the implementation of the alert
60 system established under this section. Any rule or portion
61 of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that
62 is created under the authority delegated in this section
63 shall become effective only if it complies with and is
64 subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if
65 applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536
66 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the
67 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay
68 the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are
69 subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
70 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after
71 August 28, 2026, shall be invalid and void.

✓