

[Second Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 2255**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**212th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED OCTOBER 16, 2006

**Sponsored by:**  
**Senator LORETTA WEINBERG**  
**District 37 (Bergen)**

**SYNOPSIS**

“Patricia’s Law;” model Missing Persons Legislation.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on June 18, 2007, with amendments.



1 AN ACT concerning missing persons, designating the act as  
 2 “Patricia’s Law,” and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised  
 3 Statutes.

4  
 5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
 6 of New Jersey:

7  
 8 1. As used in this act:

9 <sup>1</sup>“High risk missing person” means a person whose whereabouts  
 10 are not currently known and the circumstances <sup>2</sup>[indicate] of the  
 11 person’s disappearance suggest<sup>2</sup> that the person may be at  
 12 <sup>2</sup>imminent or likely<sup>2</sup> risk of injury or death. The circumstances that  
 13 indicate that a person is a <sup>2</sup>[high-risk] high risk<sup>2</sup> missing person  
 14 shall include, but not be limited to:

15 a. the person is missing as a result of a <sup>2</sup>[stranger] confirmed<sup>2</sup>  
 16 abduction <sup>2</sup>;

17 b. the person is missing under suspicious] or under<sup>2</sup>  
 18 circumstances <sup>2</sup>that indicate that the person’s disappearance was not  
 19 voluntary<sup>2</sup> ;

20 <sup>2</sup>[c. the person is missing under unknown circumstances;

21 d.] b.<sup>2</sup> the person is missing under known dangerous  
 22 circumstances;

23 <sup>2</sup>[e.] c.<sup>2</sup> The person is missing more than 30 days;

24 <sup>2</sup>[f. the person has already been designated as a high-risk

25 missing person by another law enforcement agency;

26 g.] d.<sup>2</sup> there is evidence that the person is at risk because:  
 27 (1) the person missing is in need of medical attention <sup>2</sup>[.]<sup>2</sup> or  
 28 prescription medication <sup>2</sup>such that it will have a serious adverse  
 29 effect on the person’s health if he or she does not receive the  
 30 needed care or medication<sup>2</sup> ;

31 (2) the person missing does not have a pattern of running away  
 32 or disappearing;

33 (3) the person missing may have been abducted by a non-  
 34 custodial parent;

35 (4) the person missing is mentally impaired;

36 (5) the person missing is a person <sup>2</sup>over the age of 13 and<sup>2</sup>  
 37 under the age of 21 years <sup>2</sup>and any other risk factor is known<sup>2</sup> or

38 (6) the person missing has been the subject of past threats or  
 39 acts of violence <sup>2</sup>[.]<sup>2</sup> ; and

40 <sup>2</sup>[h. ] e.<sup>2</sup> any other factor that may indicate, in the judgment  
 41 of the <sup>2</sup>[chief of the] lead<sup>2</sup> law enforcement agency, <sup>2</sup>[receiving  
 42 the missing person report,]<sup>2</sup> that the missing person may be at risk.<sup>1</sup>

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SLP committee amendments adopted February 26, 2007.

<sup>2</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 18, 2007.

1 “Law enforcement agency” means a department, division,  
2 bureau, commission, board <sup>2</sup>,<sup>2</sup> or other authority of the State or of  
3 any political subdivision thereof which employs law enforcement  
4 officers.

5 “Law enforcement officer” means a person whose public duties  
6 include the power to act as an officer for the detection,  
7 apprehension, arrest <sup>2</sup>, <sup>2</sup> and conviction of offenders against the  
8 laws of this State.

9 <sup>2</sup>“Lead law enforcement agency” means the law enforcement  
10 agency with primary responsibility for investigating a missing  
11 person case.

12 “Missing child” means a person 13 years of age or younger  
13 whose whereabouts are not currently known.

14 “Missing Persons Unit” means the Missing Persons Unit in the  
15 Division of State Police in the Department of Law and Public  
16 Safety established pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1983, c.467  
17 (C.52:17B-9.7).<sup>2</sup>

18  
19 2. <sup>2</sup>a.<sup>2</sup> A law enforcement agency shall accept without delay  
20 any report of a missing person. No law enforcement agency may  
21 refuse to accept a missing person report on the basis that:

22 <sup>2</sup>[a.] (1)<sup>2</sup> The missing person is an adult;

23 <sup>2</sup>[b.] (2)<sup>2</sup> The circumstances do not indicate foul play;

24 <sup>2</sup>[c.] (3)<sup>2</sup> The person has been missing for a short period of  
25 time;

26 <sup>2</sup>[d.] (4)<sup>2</sup> The person has been missing <sup>1</sup>for<sup>1</sup> a long period of  
27 time;

28 <sup>2</sup>[e.] (5)<sup>2</sup> There is no indication that the missing person was in  
29 the jurisdiction served by the law enforcement agency at the time of  
30 the disappearance;

31 <sup>2</sup>[f.] (6)<sup>2</sup> The circumstances suggest that the disappearance  
32 may be voluntary;

33 <sup>2</sup>[g.] (7)<sup>2</sup> The <sup>1</sup>[person]<sup>1</sup> reporting <sup>1</sup>person<sup>1</sup> does not have  
34 personal knowledge of the facts;

35 <sup>2</sup>[h.] (8)<sup>2</sup>. The reporting <sup>1</sup>[individual] <sup>1</sup>person<sup>1</sup> cannot provide  
36 all of the information requested by the law enforcement agency;

37 <sup>2</sup>[i.] (9)<sup>2</sup> The reporting person lacks a familial or other  
38 relationship with the missing person; or

39 <sup>2</sup>[j.] (10)<sup>2</sup> For any other reason, except in cases where the law  
40 enforcement agency has direct knowledge that the person is, in fact,  
41 not missing and the exact whereabouts and welfare of the <sup>2</sup>[subject  
42 individual] <sup>2</sup>person<sup>2</sup> are known to the agency at the time the report  
43 is being made.

44 <sup>2</sup>b. The law enforcement agency that receives a report of a  
45 missing person shall be the lead law enforcement agency in charge  
46 of the missing person investigation, and shall continue in that

1 capacity unless another law enforcement agency assumes primary  
2 responsibility over the investigation.

3 c. The lead law enforcement agency shall be entitled to the  
4 cooperation of any other law enforcement agency in the State.<sup>2</sup>

5  
6 3. At the time <sup>1</sup>[of] a missing person report is filed, the law  
7 enforcement agency shall seek to ascertain and record the following  
8 information about the missing person:

- 9 a. The name of the missing person, including any aliases <sup>1</sup><sub>1</sub>;  
10 b. Date of birth;  
11 c. Identifying marks, such as birthmarks, moles, tattoos <sup>2</sup><sub>2</sub> and  
12 scars;  
13 d. Height and weight;  
14 e. Gender;  
15 f. Race;  
16 g. Current hair color and true or natural hair color;  
17 h. Eye color;  
18 i. Prosthetics, surgical implants, or cosmetic implants;  
19 j. Physical anomalies;  
20 k. Blood type, if known;  
21 l. Any medications the missing person is taking or needs to  
22 take;  
23 m. Driver's license number, if known;  
24 n. Social security number, if known;  
25 o. A recent photograph of the missing person, if available;  
26 p. A description of the clothing the missing person was  
27 believed to be wearing at the time of disappearance;  
28 q. A description of notable items that the missing person may  
29 be carrying and wearing;  
30 r. Information <sup>1</sup>[on] regarding<sup>1</sup> the missing person's  
31 electronic communications devices, such as a cell phone number or  
32 <sup>2</sup>[email addresses] e-mail address<sup>2</sup>;  
33 s. The reasons why the reporting person believes that the  
34 person is missing;  
35 t. <sup>1</sup>[Name] The name<sup>1</sup> and location of <sup>1</sup>the<sup>1</sup> missing person's  
36 school or employer, if known;  
37 u. <sup>1</sup>[Name] The name<sup>1</sup> and location of <sup>1</sup>the<sup>1</sup> missing person's  
38 dentist and primary care physician, if known;  
39 v. Any circumstances that may indicate that the disappearance  
40 was not voluntary;  
41 w. Any circumstances that indicate that the missing person may  
42 be at risk of injury or death;  
43 x. A description of the possible means of transportation of the  
44 missing person, such as the make, model, color, license, and  
45 <sup>2</sup>[VIN] Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)<sup>2</sup> of a motor vehicle;  
46 y. Any identifying information about a known or possible  
47 abductor or the person last seen with the missing person including:

- 1 (1) name;
- 2 (2) <sup>2</sup>[a]<sup>2</sup> physical description;
- 3 (3) date of birth;
- 4 (4) identifying marks;
- 5 (5) <sup>2</sup>[the]<sup>2</sup> description of possible means of transportation, such
- 6 as the make, model, color, license, and <sup>2</sup>[VIN] Vehicle
- 7 Identification Number (VIN)<sup>2</sup> of a motor vehicle; and
- 8 (6) known associates;
- 9 z. Any other information that can aid in <sup>1</sup>[location] locating<sup>1</sup>
- 10 the missing person; and
- 11 aa. Date of last contact.
- 12
- 13 4. a. The law enforcement agency shall notify the person
- 14 making the report, a family member, or any other person in a
- 15 position to assist the law enforcement agency in its efforts to locate
- 16 the missing person by providing to that person or family member:
- 17 (1) general information about the handling of the missing person
- 18 case or about intended efforts in the case to the extent that the law
- 19 enforcement agency determines that disclosure would not adversely
- 20 affect its ability to locate or protect the missing person, to
- 21 apprehend or to prosecute any persons criminally involved in the
- 22 disappearance;
- 23 (2) information advising the person making the report <sup>1</sup>[,]<sup>1</sup> and
- 24 other involved persons that if the missing person remains missing,
- 25 they <sup>2</sup>[shall<sup>1</sup>] should<sup>2</sup> contact the law enforcement agency to
- 26 provide additional information and materials that will aid in
- 27 locating the missing person, such as any credit or debit cards the
- 28 missing person has access to, other banking or financial information
- 29 and any records of cell phone use;
- 30 (3) in those cases where DNA samples are requested, the law
- 31 enforcement agency shall notify the person or family member that
- 32 all such DNA samples are provided on a voluntary basis and shall
- 33 be used solely to help locate or identify the missing person and shall
- 34 not be used for any other purpose; <sup>2</sup>and<sup>2</sup>
- 35 (4) the law enforcement agency, upon acceptance of a missing
- 36 person report, shall inform the person filing the report that there are
- 37 two clearing houses for missing person's information. If the person
- 38 reported missing is age 17 or under, the person filing the report
- 39 shall be provided with contact information for the National Center
- 40 for Missing and Exploited Children. If the person reported missing
- 41 is age 18 or older, the person filing the report shall be provided with
- 42 contact information for the National Center for Missing Adults.
- 43 b. If the person identified in the missing person report remains
- 44 missing for 30 days, and the additional information and materials
- 45 specified below have not been received, the law enforcement
- 46 agency shall attempt to obtain <sup>2</sup>[;]<sup>2</sup> ;<sup>2</sup>

- 1 (1) DNA samples from family members and, if possible, from  
2 the missing person along with any needed documentation, including  
3 any consent forms, required for the use of State or <sup>2</sup>[Federal]  
4 federal<sup>2</sup> DNA databases;
- 5 (2) dental information and x-rays, and an authorization to  
6 release dental or skeletal x-rays of the missing person;
- 7 (3) any additional photographs of the missing person that may  
8 aid the investigation or an identification. The law enforcement  
9 agency shall not be required to obtain written authorization before it  
10 releases publicly any photograph that would aid in the investigation  
11 or identification of the missing person; and
- 12 (4) fingerprints.
- 13 c. All DNA samples obtained in missing <sup>1</sup>[person's] persons<sup>1</sup>  
14 cases shall be immediately forwarded to the New Jersey Forensic  
15 DNA Laboratory for analysis. The laboratory shall establish  
16 procedures for determining how to prioritize analysis of the samples  
17 relating to missing persons cases <sup>1</sup>[;] <sup>1</sup>.
- 18 d. Information relevant to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's  
19 Violent Criminal Apprehension Program shall be entered as soon as  
20 possible.
- 21 e. Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude a law  
22 enforcement agency from obtaining any of the materials identified  
23 in this section before the 30th day following the filing of the  
24 missing person report.
- 25
- 26 5. <sup>1</sup>a.<sup>1</sup> Upon the initial receipt of a missing person report, a law  
27 enforcement agency shall seek to determine whether the person  
28 reported missing is <sup>2</sup>to be designated<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>a<sup>1</sup> high risk <sup>1</sup>missing  
29 person<sup>1</sup>.
- 30 <sup>1</sup>[a. A high-risk missing person is an individual whose  
31 whereabouts are not currently known and the circumstances indicate  
32 that the individual may be at risk of injury or death. The  
33 circumstances that indicate that an individual is high-risk missing  
34 person shall include, but not be limited to:
- 35 (1) the person is missing as a result of a stranger abduction;
- 36 (2) the person is missing under suspicious circumstances;
- 37 (3) the person is missing under unknown circumstances;
- 38 (4) the person is missing under known dangerous circumstances;
- 39 (5) the person is missing more than 30 days;
- 40 (6) the person has already been designated as a high-risk  
41 missing person by another law enforcement agency;
- 42 (7) there is evidence that the person is at risk because:
- 43 (a) the person missing is in need of medical attention, or  
44 prescription medication;
- 45 (b) the person missing does not have a pattern of running away  
46 or disappearing;

- 1 (c) the person missing may have been abducted by a non-  
2 custodial parent;
- 3 (d) the person missing is mentally impaired;
- 4 (e) the person missing is a person under the age of 21 years; or
- 5 (f) the person missing has been the subject of past threats or  
6 acts of violence.
- 7 (8) any other factor that may, in the judgment of the chief of the  
8 law enforcement agency receiving the missing person report,  
9 determine that the missing person may be at risk.]<sup>1</sup>
- 10 b. <sup>2</sup>[A finding that a person reported missing is not] If the  
11 initial determination of a person reported missing does not warrant  
12 designation of that person as<sup>2</sup> high risk <sup>2</sup>, it<sup>2</sup> shall not preclude a  
13 later determination, based on further investigation or the discovery  
14 of additional information, that the missing person is high risk.
- 15
- 16 6. a. <sup>2</sup>[When a law enforcement agency determines] Upon a  
17 determination<sup>2</sup> that a missing person <sup>2</sup>[is] investigation involves<sup>2</sup> a  
18 <sup>1</sup>[high-risk] high risk<sup>1</sup> missing person <sup>2</sup>[it shall notify the State  
19 Police Missing Persons Unit. It shall immediately provide the State  
20 Police Missing Persons Unit with the information that is most likely  
21 to aid in the location and safe return of the <sup>1</sup>[high-risk] high risk<sup>1</sup>  
22 missing person. As soon as practicable, the law enforcement  
23 agency shall provide all other information obtained relating to the  
24 missing person case to the State Police Missing Persons Unit] or a  
25 missing child, the lead law enforcement agency shall take such  
26 actions as are specified in the uniform investigative standards for a  
27 high risk missing person or a missing child, as the case may be, as  
28 set forth in the protocol developed pursuant to section 10 of P.L. ,  
29 c. (C. )(pending before the Legislature as this bill), and also  
30 may contact the Missing Persons Unit and request assistance. The  
31 Missing Persons Unit, in consultation with the lead law  
32 enforcement agency, shall determine whether the circumstances  
33 warrant a cooperative investigative effort. If the determination is  
34 made that a cooperative effort is warranted, then the Missing  
35 Persons Unit shall coordinate the deployment of additional State  
36 Police resources in support of the investigation<sup>2</sup>.
- 37 b. The <sup>2</sup>[State Police Missing Persons Unit] lead law  
38 enforcement agency<sup>2</sup> shall promptly notify all law enforcement  
39 agencies within the State and, if deemed appropriate, law  
40 enforcement agencies in adjacent states or jurisdictions of the  
41 information that may aid in the prompt location and safe return of  
42 the <sup>1</sup>[high-risk] high risk<sup>1</sup> missing person <sup>2</sup>[;] <sup>2</sup>.
- 43 c. Local law enforcement agencies that receive notification  
44 from the <sup>2</sup>[State Police Missing Unit] lead law enforcement  
45 agency<sup>2</sup> pursuant to subsection b. of this section shall forward that  
46 information immediately to its officers and members.

1 d. <sup>2</sup>The lead law enforcement agency shall, as expeditiously as  
2 possible, prepare and disseminate a photographic information  
3 bulletin utilizing the Missing Child Alert System, or any successor  
4 law enforcement notification system the State may employ.

5 e.<sup>2</sup> The <sup>2</sup>~~State Police Missing Persons Unit~~ lead law  
6 enforcement agency<sup>2</sup> shall, as appropriate, enter all collected  
7 information relating to the missing person case to applicable  
8 <sup>2</sup>~~Federal~~ federal<sup>2</sup> databases. The information shall be provided in  
9 accordance with applicable guidelines relating to the databases, as  
10 follows:

11 (1) a missing person report, and relevant information, in a  
12 <sup>1</sup>~~high-risk~~ high risk<sup>1</sup> missing person case shall be entered in the  
13 National Crime Information Center database immediately, but in no  
14 case no more than <sup>1</sup>~~2~~ two<sup>1</sup> hours <sup>1</sup>~~of~~ after<sup>1</sup> the determination  
15 that the missing person is a <sup>1</sup>~~high-risk~~ high risk<sup>1</sup> missing person  
16 <sup>2</sup>~~.~~ ;<sup>2</sup>

17 (2) a missing person report, and relevant information, in a case  
18 not involving a high risk missing person shall be entered within 24  
19 hours of the initial filing of the missing person report <sup>2</sup>~~.~~ ;<sup>2</sup>

20 (3) all DNA profiles shall be uploaded into the missing persons  
21 databases of the New Jersey Forensic DNA Laboratory and all  
22 appropriate and suitable federal database systems <sup>2</sup>~~.~~ ;<sup>2</sup>

23 (4) information relevant to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's  
24 Violent Criminal Apprehension Program shall be entered as soon as  
25 practicable <sup>2</sup>~~.~~ ;<sup>2</sup>

26 (5) all due care shall be given to insure that the data, particularly  
27 medical and dental records, entered in State and federal database  
28 systems is accurate and, to the greatest extent possible, complete  
29 <sup>2</sup>~~.~~ ; and<sup>2</sup>

30 (6) the State Police shall, when deemed appropriate and likely to  
31 facilitate a resolution to a particular missing person report, activate  
32 the Amber Alert program for the State.

33 <sup>2</sup>f. If, after the dissemination of a photographic information  
34 bulletin utilizing the Missing Child Alert System information, the  
35 missing person is found, the lead law enforcement agency shall  
36 promptly disseminate an additional bulletin on the Missing Child  
37 Alert System indicating that the person was found.<sup>2</sup>

38  
39 7. a. The Attorney General shall provide information to local  
40 law enforcement agencies about best practices and protocols for  
41 handling death scene investigations <sup>1</sup>~~;~~ ;<sup>1</sup>

42 b. The Attorney General shall identify any publications or  
43 training opportunities that may be available to local law  
44 enforcement officers concerning the handling of death scene  
45 investigations.



1 8. a. After performing any death scene investigation, as  
2 deemed appropriate under the circumstances, the official with  
3 custody of the human remains shall ensure that the human remains  
4 are delivered to the appropriate county medical examiner.

5 b. Any county medical examiner with custody of human  
6 remains that are not identified within 24 hours of discovery shall  
7 promptly notify the <sup>2</sup>[State Police] Missing Persons Unit<sup>2</sup> of the  
8 location of those remains.

9 c. If the county medical examiner with custody of remains  
10 cannot determine whether or not the remains found are human, the  
11 medical examiner shall so notify the <sup>2</sup>[State Police] Missing  
12 Persons Unit<sup>2</sup>.

13  
14 9. a. If the official with custody of the human remains is not a  
15 medical examiner, the official shall promptly transfer the  
16 unidentified remains to the appropriate county medical examiner.

17 b. The county medical examiner shall make reasonable  
18 attempts to promptly identify human remains. These actions may  
19 include but are not limited to obtaining:

- 20 (1) photographs of the human remains;  
21 (2) dental or skeletal X-rays;  
22 (3) photographs of items found with the human remains;  
23 (4) fingerprints from the remains, if possible;  
24 (5) samples of tissue suitable for DNA typing, if possible;  
25 (6) samples of whole bone <sup>1</sup>[and/or] or<sup>1</sup> hair suitable for DNA  
26 typing; <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup>  
27 (7) any other information that may support identification efforts.

28 c. No medical examiner or any other person shall <sup>2</sup>[,]<sup>2</sup> dispose  
29 of, or engage in actions that will materially affect the unidentified  
30 human remains before the county medical examiner obtains:

- 31 (1) samples suitable for DNA identification archiving;  
32 (2) photographs of the unidentified human remains; and  
33 (3) all other appropriate steps for identification have been  
34 exhausted.

35 d. Unidentified human remains shall not be cremated.

36 e. The county medical examiner shall make reasonable efforts  
37 to obtain prompt DNA analysis of biological samples <sup>2</sup>[,]<sup>2</sup> if the  
38 human remains have not been identified by other means within 30  
39 days.

40 f. The medical examiner shall seek support from appropriate  
41 State and federal agencies to assist in the identification of  
42 unidentified human remains. Such assistance may include, but not  
43 be limited to, available mitochondrial or nuclear DNA testing,  
44 federal grants for DNA testing, or federal grants for crime  
45 laboratory or medical examiner office improvement.

46 g. The county medical examiner shall <sup>2</sup>seek support from  
47 appropriate federal and State agency representatives to have

1 information<sup>2</sup> promptly <sup>2</sup>**[enter information]** entered<sup>2</sup> in federal and  
2 State databases <sup>2</sup>by those representatives<sup>2</sup> that can aid in the  
3 identification of a missing person. Information shall be entered into  
4 federal databases as follows:

5 (1) information for the National Crime Information Center  
6 within 24 hours;

7 (2) DNA profiles and information shall be entered into the  
8 National DNA Index System (NDIS) within five business days after  
9 the completion of the DNA analysis and procedures necessary for  
10 the entry of the DNA profile; and

11 (3) information sought by the Violent Criminal Apprehension  
12 Program database as soon as practicable.

13 h. Nothing in this act shall be construed to preclude any  
14 medical examiner office, the State Police or any local law  
15 enforcement agency from other actions to facilitate the  
16 identification of unidentified human remains including efforts to  
17 publicize information, descriptions <sup>2</sup>,<sup>2</sup> or photographs that may aid  
18 in the identification of the unidentified remains, including allowing  
19 family members to identify a missing person; provided that in  
20 taking these actions, all due consideration is given to protect the  
21 dignity and well-being of the of the missing person and the family  
22 of the missing person.

23 i. Agencies handling the remains of a missing person who is  
24 deceased shall notify the law enforcement agency handling the  
25 missing person's case. Documented efforts <sup>1</sup>**[must]** shall<sup>1</sup> be made  
26 to locate family members of the deceased person to inform them of  
27 the death and location of the remains of their family member.

28  
29 <sup>2</sup>**[10. The Attorney General, pursuant to the provisions of the**  
30 **"Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et**  
31 **seq.), shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the**  
32 **purposes of this act.]**<sup>2</sup>

33  
34 <sup>2</sup>10. In implementing the provisions of this act and prior to the  
35 effective date, the Superintendent of State Police shall develop and  
36 disseminate to all law enforcement agencies in the State a best  
37 practices protocol for State and local law enforcement agencies to  
38 follow when addressing reports of missing persons, which protocol  
39 shall set forth uniform investigative standards for missing persons  
40 cases and any other procedures, practices and standards that the  
41 superintendent deems appropriate for handling missing person  
42 cases. The protocol shall include specific procedures practice and  
43 standards applicable to cases involving high risk missing persons or  
44 missing children. The Superintendent of State Police shall develop  
45 and make available to each law enforcement agency in this State a  
46 training program on the procedures, practices and standards for the  
47 handling of high risk missing persons, missing children and missing

1 persons cases set forth in the protocol adopted pursuant to and  
2 consistent with this act and section. Each law enforcement agency  
3 in this State shall comply with this protocol when the agency is  
4 notified of a missing person.

5 To assess the effectiveness of this protocol, the Missing Persons  
6 Unit annually shall review a sample of open missing persons cases  
7 from the immediately preceding year. Based upon its assessment,  
8 the Missing Persons Unit may recommend to the superintendent that  
9 the protocol be revised or amended and whether the training  
10 programs currently available to law enforcement agencies are  
11 adequate.<sup>2</sup>

12

13 11. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh  
14 month following enactment, but the Attorney General may take  
15 such anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be  
16 necessary for the implementation of this act.