

**CHAPTER 124****( SB 32 )**

AN ACT creating the Kentucky Blue Alert System.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 16 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) *The Department of Kentucky State Police in cooperation with the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Transportation Cabinet, the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Military Affairs, broadcasters, and the news media shall operate a system to notify the public when a peace officer has been killed, injured, or is missing in the line of duty and the department determines that public notification might aid in the apprehension of a suspect or the recovery of the officer. The system shall be known as the Kentucky Blue Alert System.*
- (2) *The Kentucky Blue Alert System shall utilize existing resources, including but not limited to electronic highway signs; the Amber Alert System; law enforcement communications systems; electronic media; local, regional, and statewide media providers; and the Emergency Alert System, if authorized and under conditions permitted by the federal government.*
- (3) *The Department of Kentucky State Police shall promulgate administrative regulations for the operation and administration of the Kentucky Blue Alert System.*

➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 16 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) *No public alert using the Kentucky Blue Alert System shall be issued unless requested by a law enforcement agency and, upon consultation with that agency, the department determines:*
  - (a) *That a peace officer has been killed, seriously injured, or is missing in the line of duty;*
  - (b) *That public notification is the most appropriate method of locating the officer or identifying and locating a suspected offender who poses an imminent threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel;*
  - (c) *That there is sufficient information available relating to the officer's last known location and the physical description of any suspected offender or vehicle involved that could be broadcast to assist in locating the officer or suspected offender; and*
  - (d) *The geographic area in which the notification shall be made.*
- (2) *The requesting agency shall provide the information required by administrative regulation to the Department of Kentucky State Police prior to activation of the Kentucky Blue Alert System.*
- (3) *If it is determined by the department that public notification shall be initiated, the department shall notify the public and private agencies and organizations that will provide the notification and provide those agencies and organizations with the information that the department deems necessary.*
- (4) *All law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the department in the provision and dissemination of information regarding any peace officer who has been killed, seriously injured, or is missing in the line of duty.*
- (5) *No law enforcement agency, other than the department, shall activate the Kentucky Blue Alert System without the authority of the department.*

➔Section 3. This Act shall be known as the Trooper Jonathan K. Leonard Kentucky Blue Alert System Act.

**Signed by Governor April 11, 2012.**