

Silver Alert Grant Program Resource Page

Congressman Bilirakis has introduced legislation that would establish a national grant program to help U.S. states and territories establish "Silver Alert" notification systems to locate missing individuals suffering from Alzheimer's and other dementia-related illnesses.

UPDATE 9/18: The U.S. House of Representatives approved legislation (H.R. 6064) that includes key portions of a bill sponsored by U.S. Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-Fla.) to create a federal grant program to help states establish silver alert notification systems to help find missing seniors. [Read More...](#)

UPDATE 7/15: The Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security of the House Judiciary Committee held a hearing on H.R. 5898, the "Silver Alert Grant Program Act of 2008." [Read More...](#)

Summary of The Silver Alert Grant Notification Act of 2008 (H.R. 5898)

The Silver Alert Grant Program Act of 2008 (H.R. 5898) would establish a grant program within the Department of Justice to allow states with an approved application to obtain federal funding for the establishment of Silver Alert programs or to make improvements to existing ones.

Additionally, the legislation would require the U.S. Attorney General to report to Congress on the experiences of states with existing Silver Alert systems to help guide their establishment in other states. Those states already with Silver Alert programs will also be eligible to apply for federal funds to help operate and improve their existing systems, saving the state money that can be used for other important state needs.

Legislative Resources

- Download: Section-by-Section Summary of H.R. 5898 (in .PDF format)
- Download: Full Text of H.R. 5898 (in .PDF format)
- View: Legislative Digest of H.R. 5898 on THOMAS (THOMAS)
- Press Release: Entire Florida Delegation Gets behind Silver Alert Bill
- Press Release: Rep. Bilirakis Introduces Bill Creating Silver Alert Grant Program
- Blog Post: Florida Silver Alert Moves Closer
- Blog Post: Silver Alert Saves Lives in Texas
- Blog Post: Another Alzheimer's Sufferer Goes Missing, Later Found
- Blog Post: National Silver Alert Grant Program Could Save Lives
- Download: CRS Report on Amber Alert Technology (in .PDF format)

In the News

Stories on H.R. 5898

- St. Petersburg Times: Alert for missing seniors sought
- USA Today: Silver Alerts could help pinpoint missing seniors' location
- The Tampa Tribune: Lawmakers To Consider Creating a Silver Alert for Seniors
- The State-Banner: Kelly plans to file bill creating Silver Alert system
- Bay News 9: New support for Silver Alert system
- WTSP-TV (CBS 10): Bilirakis wants Silver Alert for Florida
- The Chicago Tribune: An Amber Alert for seniors?
- Florida Today: Editorial: Finding the missing
- St. Petersburg Times: Death prompts 'Silver Alert' bill
- WFTS ABC Action News: Bill to create Silver Alert Program introduced to lawmakers
- Stateline.org: When an elder goes missing, seven states can trigger Silver Alerts

Stories on May Zelter

- The Tampa Tribune: Silver Alert Is 'Great Idea For Florida'
- St. Petersburg Times: Search for missing woman, 86, widens across nation
- ABC News: Could an Amber Alert for Seniors Help?
- St. Petersburg Times: Body pulled from water identified as missing Largo woman
- The Tampa Tribune: Family Of Dead Woman Advocates Alert System For Missing Elderly
- St. Petersburg Times: Police find Largo woman, but few answers
- St. Petersburg Times: Missing 86-year-old Largo woman drowned

Stories on 'Silver Alert'

- USA Today: Editorial: Bright ideas on public health
- St. Petersburg Times: U.S. House passes Silver Alert to find seniors
- St. Petersburg Times: Largo tragedy gives rise to new Silver Alert system
- The Tampa Tribune: Pinellas Officials Relish Coming Of Silver Alert System
- Bay New 9: U.S. House passes National Silver Alert Act
- Fort Worth Star-Telegram: Texas' 'silver alert' system has helped find missing seniors
- Associated Press: State's 'Silver Alert' program successfully finds seniors
- The News & Observer: Questions linger in elderly man's death
- KTNV ABC Action News: Group Works To Get Silver Alert Program In Nevada
- The Register-Herald: 'Silver Alert' proposed to find missing seniors
- KHOU-TV 11 News: Silver Alert saves lives
- Associated Press: NJ lawmakers advance bill to establish 'Silver Alert' to find lost seniors
- Charlotte Observer: Lt. Gov: SC needs an alert system to quickly find older adults who wander off