



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB3625

Introduced 2/14/2020, by Sen. Rachelle Crowe

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 2605/2605-615 new  
20 ILCS 2705/2705-505.7 new

Amends the Department of State Police Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Establishes the Blue Alert Advisory Program within the Department of State Police. Provides that the Department shall inform all persons that are within a radius of 100 square miles of the correctional institution or facility from which the inmate has escaped, through electronic communication devices, electronic messages signs on State highways, and any other medium deemed necessary by the Department. Provides that the Department, in coordination with the Department of Corrections, shall develop and implement a community outreach program to promote awareness of the Blue Alert Advisory Program among applicable entities, including, but not limited to, chiefs of police, county sheriffs, and correctional institutions or facilities. Creates the Blue Alert Advisory Coordinator within the Department and provides that he or she shall assist in the establishment of State standards and monitor the availability of federal funding that may become available to further the objectives of the Advisory Program. Provides that the Department shall establish an Inmate Search Task Force within 90 days after the effective date of the amendatory Act. Prescribes membership for the Task Force. Amends the Department of Transportation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that the Department of Transportation shall coordinate with the Department in the use of electronic message signs on roads and highways to immediately provide critical information to the public concerning escaped inmates, as allowed by federal guidelines. Effective immediately.

LRB101 15214 TAE 64378 b

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of State Police Law of the Civil  
5 Administrative Code of Illinois is amended by adding Section  
6 2605-615, and 2705-505.7 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 2605/2605-615 new)

8 Sec. 2605-615. Blue Alert Advisory Program.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Department" means the Department of State Police.

11 "Escape" means the intentional and unauthorized absence of  
12 a committed person from the custody of the Department.

13 "Inmate" means a male or female offender who is committed,  
14 under sentence to, or confined in a penal or correctional  
15 institution.

16 (b) A coordinated program known as the Blue Alert Advisory  
17 Program is established within the Department of State Police.  
18 The purpose of the Blue Alert Advisory Program is to provide a  
19 regional system for the rapid dissemination of information  
20 regarding an escaped inmate. The Blue Alert Advisory Program  
21 shall apply to all inmates that escape a correctional  
22 institution or facility. "Correctional institution or  
23 facility" has the meaning provided under Section 3-1-2 of the

1 Unified Code of Corrections.

2 (c) The Department shall inform all persons that are within  
3 a radius of 100 square miles of the correctional institution or  
4 facility from which the inmate has escaped, through electronic  
5 communication devices, electronic messages signs on State  
6 highways, and any other medium deemed necessary by the  
7 Department.

8 (d) Subject to appropriation, the Department of State  
9 Police, in coordination with the Department of Corrections,  
10 shall develop and implement a community outreach program to  
11 promote awareness of the Blue Alert Advisory Program among  
12 applicable entities, including, but not limited to, chiefs of  
13 police, county sheriffs, and correctional institutions or  
14 facilities.

15 (e) The Department shall establish an Inmate Search Task  
16 Force no later than 90 days after the effective date of this  
17 amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly to assist the  
18 Department in development and deployment of the Blue Alert  
19 Advisory Program. The Task Force shall establish the criteria,  
20 which may include usage of Department of Transportation signs,  
21 under Section 2705-505.6 of the Department of Transportation  
22 Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. The Task  
23 Force shall monitor and review the implementation and operation  
24 of that program, including procedures, budgetary requirements,  
25 standards, and minimum requirements for the training of law  
26 enforcement personnel on how to interact appropriately and

1 effectively with escaped inmates. The Task Force shall also  
2 develop additional network and financial resources for use in  
3 the system. The Task Force shall include, but is not limited  
4 to, one representative from each of the following:

5 (1) the Department of State Police;

6 (2) the Department of Corrections;

7 (3) the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards  
8 Board;

9 (4) the Illinois Emergency Management Agency;

10 (5) the Secretary of State;

11 (6) the Department of Transportation;

12 (7) the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority;

13 (8) a State organization dedicated to enhancing  
14 communication and cooperation between sheriffs;

15 (9) a State association of police chiefs and other  
16 leaders of police and public safety organizations;

17 (10) a State association representing Illinois  
18 publishers;

19 (11) a State association that advocates for the  
20 broadcast industry;

21 (12) a representative of a large wireless telephone  
22 carrier; and

23 (13) a representative of a small wireless telephone  
24 carrier.

25 (f) The members of the Task Force designated in paragraphs  
26 (1) through (7) of subsection (e) shall be appointed by the

1 head of the respective agency. The members of the Task Force  
2 designated in paragraphs (8) through (13) of subsection (e)  
3 shall be appointed by the Director of State Police. The  
4 Director of State Police, or his or her designee, shall serve  
5 as Chair of the Task Force.

6 (g) The Task Force shall meet at least twice a year and  
7 shall provide a report on the operations of the Blue Alert  
8 Advisory Program to the General Assembly and the Governor each  
9 year by June 30.

10 (h) The Blue Alert Advisory Coordinator is created under  
11 the Department. The Blue Alert Advisory Coordinator shall, in  
12 conjunction with the members of the Task Force, assist the  
13 Department and the Inmate Search Task Force in the  
14 establishment of State standards and monitor the availability  
15 of federal and private funding that may become available to  
16 further the objectives of Blue Alert Advisory Program. The  
17 Department shall provide technical assistance for the  
18 Coordinator from its existing resources.

19 (i) The Department shall provide administrative and other  
20 support to the Task Force.

21 Section 10. The Department of Transportation Law of the  
22 Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is amended by adding  
23 Section 2705-505.7 as follows:

24 (20 ILCS 2705/2705-505.7 new)

1       Sec. 2705-505.7. Blue Alert Advisory message signs. The  
2       Department of Transportation shall coordinate with the  
3       Department in the use of electronic message signs on roads and  
4       highways to immediately provide critical information to the  
5       public concerning escaped inmates, as allowed by federal  
6       guidelines.

7       Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
8       becoming law.