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House Concurrent Resolution No. 5029

By Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

2-12

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Kansas bureau of investigation to establish a blue alert system for the state of Kansas.

WHEREAS, A Blue Alert is designed to speed the apprehension of violent criminals who kill or seriously injure law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, Eighteen states currently have the Blue Alert in place, while other states and the federal government are considering establishing a Blue Alert; and

WHEREAS, The four criteria for issuance of a Blue Alert are: (1) A law enforcement officer must have been killed or seriously injured by an offender; (2) the investigating law enforcement agency must determine that the offender poses a serious risk or threat to the public and other law enforcement personnel; (3) a detailed description of the offender's vehicle, vehicle tag or partial tag must be available for broadcast to the public; and (4) the investigating law enforcement agency of jurisdiction must recommend activation of the Blue Alert; and

WHEREAS, All Kansans respect and are grateful for the service of the men and women who serve as law enforcement officers and are deeply saddened whenever an officer is killed or injured; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature desires that a Blue Alert system be established in the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Kansas already has in place similar systems; Amber Alters for abducted children, and Silver Alerts for missing senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, The most efficient and effective means of establishing a Blue Alert system in Kansas would be for the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, using its existing authorities, to establish a Blue Alert system: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Kansas Legislature urges the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to establish a Blue Alert system for the State of Kansas and urges all law enforcement agencies and other appropriate organizations and people to lend support to this effort.

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.