



News From  
**State Representative Sandra Pihos**

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**Pihos Bill to Create Missing Person Alert System**  
*Advisories sent out for At-risk People, Missing Children*

Springfield, IL...A bill that will create an alert system for missing at-risk persons—including missing children—has passed both chambers, announced the bill's sponsor in the House, State Rep. Sandra Pihos (R-Glen Ellyn).

Senate Bill 27 creates a missing person advisory that will allow for information to be rapidly disseminated through the public for anyone who is believed to be a "high-risk" missing person.

"We've worked diligently on this issue to create a Missing Persons Alert system because we do not currently have a way to do a thorough search for missing persons without this legislation," Pihos said. "I am pleased that we have worked with our law enforcement agencies and the Department of Aging to craft something that can aid in the search of finding a missing loved one."

The bill was created because so many people suffer from dementia and other similar cognitive impairments and they are just as much in danger of being physically abused or exploited just as cases involving abducted children. Current AMBER alerts are used only for children who are thought to have been abducted, not for those who are considered missing. While individuals suffering from dementia or a like illness aren't kidnapped, they do have the possibility of getting lost and becoming vulnerable, Pihos said.

The bill will ensure that the new system coordinates with the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Department on Aging in the development and implementation of a community outreach program to promote awareness among healthcare facilities, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and other senior centers. The measure now goes to the Governor for his signature.

"I encourage the Governor to sign this into law so that we have a statewide system that will notify the public if our at-risk loved ones go missing," Pihos said. "This is a bill that puts safety of residents in our communities first."