

**House File 166 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 166

BY WILLS

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the creation of a green alert program for  
2 missing veterans-at-risk.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 694.1, subsection 1, Code 2019, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *e.* Is a veteran-at-risk.

4 Sec. 2. Section 694.1, Code 2019, is amended by adding the  
5 following new subsection:

6 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. "*Veteran-at-risk*" means a veteran as  
7 defined in section 35.1 or an active duty member of the armed  
8 forces of the United States, a member of a reserve component  
9 thereof, or a member of the national guard who, based on the  
10 information provided by a person filing a complaint pursuant to  
11 section 694.2, is a veteran or member with a physical or mental  
12 health condition related to the military service of the veteran  
13 or member.

14 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **694.5A Green alert program for missing**  
15 **veterans-at-risk.**

16 1. For purposes of this section:

17 *a.* "*Department*" means the department of public safety.

18 *b.* "*Green alert*" means a public alert program for missing  
19 veterans-at-risk.

20 2. The department shall establish a green alert to require  
21 a law enforcement agency that receives a report of a missing  
22 person involving a veteran-at-risk to submit a request for a  
23 public alert to the state patrol as soon as practicable. The  
24 department shall implement activation procedures for a green  
25 alert by the same mechanisms currently used by the department  
26 for the public alert program for missing and abducted children.

27 3. The department shall develop the criteria to be used  
28 in determining whether a green alert shall be issued by the  
29 state patrol. The department shall develop the criteria in  
30 collaboration with the department of veterans affairs, the  
31 commission of veterans affairs, the United States department  
32 of veterans affairs, the department of human services, and the  
33 Iowa association of broadcasters. The criteria shall include  
34 but not be limited to the following:

35 *a.* A report of a missing veteran-at-risk must be provided



1 establish a green alert, which is defined in the bill as a  
2 public alert program for missing veterans-at-risk, requiring  
3 a law enforcement agency that receives a report of a missing  
4 person involving a veteran-at-risk to submit a request for a  
5 public alert to the state patrol as soon as practicable. The  
6 green alert shall be implemented in a substantially similar  
7 fashion as the activation procedures used for an AMBER alert  
8 pursuant to administrative rules of the department of public  
9 safety relating to missing and abducted children.

10 The bill requires the department of public safety to develop  
11 the criteria to be used by the state patrol in determining  
12 whether a green alert shall be issued. The criteria shall  
13 include but not be limited to the following: (1) a report of a  
14 missing veteran-at-risk must be provided to a law enforcement  
15 agency within 72 hours of the veteran-at-risk's disappearance;  
16 (2) there is reason to believe the veteran-at-risk may be  
17 missing as a consequence of a physical or mental health  
18 condition that is related to the veteran-at-risk's military  
19 service; and (3) there is sufficient information available to  
20 disseminate a green alert to the public that could assist in  
21 locating the missing veteran-at-risk.

22 The bill requires the department of public safety to develop  
23 and disseminate to law enforcement agencies a form to be used  
24 in submitting a request to the state patrol for a green alert,  
25 and requires the department of public safety to adopt rules  
26 consistent with the provisions of the bill.