

**Senate File 561 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 561  
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 151)

(COMPANION TO HF 63 BY WHEELER)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the establishment of a cold case  
2 investigation unit within the department of public safety.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 80.31 Cold case investigation unit.

2 1. A state cold case investigation unit is created under  
3 the control, direction, and supervision of the commissioner.  
4 The commissioner may assign the cold case investigation unit  
5 to a division or bureau within the department. The unit  
6 shall, within the capabilities of the unit, conduct criminal  
7 investigations after an initial criminal investigation has been  
8 completed by the law enforcement agency conducting the initial  
9 criminal investigation. The unit shall focus on investigations  
10 related to unsolved murders, missing children, and missing  
11 adults presumed to be deceased.

12 2. The commissioner shall appoint at least two full-time  
13 agents to the cold case investigation unit.

14 3. The department shall adopt rules in accordance with  
15 chapter 17A to administer this section.

16 EXPLANATION

17 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
18 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

19 This bill establishes a cold case investigation unit within  
20 the department of public safety.

21 The bill provides that the commissioner of public safety  
22 may assign the cold case investigation unit to a division or  
23 bureau within the department. Under the bill, the cold case  
24 investigation unit shall, within the capabilities of the unit,  
25 conduct criminal investigations after an initial criminal  
26 investigation has been completed by the law enforcement agency  
27 conducting the initial criminal investigation. The bill  
28 specifies that the unit shall focus on investigations related  
29 to unsolved murders, missing children, and missing adults  
30 presumed to be deceased.

31 The bill provides that the commissioner shall appoint at  
32 least two full-time agents to the cold case investigation  
33 unit, and the department of public safety shall adopt rules to  
34 administer the provisions of the bill.