

Senate File 40 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 40

BY J. TAYLOR

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 peace officers to the cold case investigation unit.

14 3. The department shall adopt rules in accordance with
15 chapter 17A to administer this section. The rules shall
16 include but are not limited to provisions which ensure proper
17 training and resources for peace officers of the department
18 assigned to a cold case investigation unit.

19 EXPLANATION

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

22 This bill establishes a cold case investigation unit within
23 the department of public safety.

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

34 The bill provides that the commissioner shall appoint
35 at least two full-time peace officers to the cold case

1 investigation unit and the department of public safety shall
2 adopt rules to administer the provisions of the bill. The
3 rules shall include but are not limited to provisions which
4 ensure proper training and resources for peace officers of the
5 department assigned to a cold case investigation unit.