

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 423

To authorize the Attorney General to provide grants for organizations to find missing adults.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To authorize the Attorney General to provide grants for organizations to find missing adults.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as “Kristen’s Act Reauthoriza-  
5 tion of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Every year thousands of adults become  
9 missing due to advanced age, diminished mental ca-  
10 pacity, or foul play. Often there is no information

1        regarding the whereabouts of these adults and many  
2        of them are never reunited with their families.

3            (2) Missing adults are at great risk of both  
4        physical harm and sexual exploitation.

5            (3) In most cases, families and local law en-  
6        forcement officials have neither the resources nor  
7        the expertise to undertake appropriate search efforts  
8        for a missing adult.

9            (4) The search for a missing adult requires co-  
10       operation and coordination among Federal, State,  
11       and local law enforcement agencies and assistance  
12       from distant communities where the adult may be lo-  
13       cated.

14           (5) Federal assistance is urgently needed to  
15       help with coordination among such agencies.

16           (6) Since 2001, following the enactment of  
17       Kristen’s Act (Public Law 106–468), the National  
18       Center for Missing Adults has—

19                (A) served as a national resource center  
20                and information clearinghouse for missing  
21                adults;

22                (B) provided training to investigative law  
23                enforcement officers to prepare such officers to  
24                appropriately respond to missing adult cases;  
25                and

1 (C) worked in cooperation with the Bureau  
2 of Justice Assistance and the Office for Victims  
3 of Crime of the Department of Justice, the  
4 International Homicide Investigators Associa-  
5 tion, and many other agencies in the effort to  
6 find missing adults and prevent victimization.

7 (7) The National Center for Missing Adults is  
8 working to provide policy training to police chiefs  
9 and sheriffs regarding the issues of missing adults.

10 (8) The demand for the services of the National  
11 Center for Missing Adults is growing substantially.

12 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF ORGANIZATIONS**  
13 **TO FIND MISSING ADULTS.**

14 (a) GRANTS.—The Attorney General, acting through  
15 the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance of the  
16 Department of Justice, shall make grants to public agen-  
17 cies or nonprofit private organizations, or combinations  
18 thereof, to—

19 (1) maintain a national resource center and in-  
20 formation clearinghouse for missing and unidentified  
21 adults;

22 (2) maintain a national, interconnected data-  
23 base for the purpose of tracking missing adults who  
24 are determined by law enforcement to be endangered  
25 due to age, diminished mental capacity, or the cir-

1        cumstances of disappearance, when foul play is sus-  
2        pected or circumstances are unknown;

3            (3) coordinate public and private programs that  
4        locate or recover missing adults or reunite missing  
5        adults with their families;

6            (4) provide assistance and training to law en-  
7        forcement agencies, State and local governments,  
8        elements of the criminal justice system, nonprofit or-  
9        ganizations, and individuals in the prevention, inves-  
10       tigation, prosecution, and treatment of cases involv-  
11       ing missing adults;

12           (5) provide assistance to families in locating  
13        and recovering missing adults; and

14           (6) assist in public notification and victim adv-  
15        cacy related to missing adults.

16        (b) OTHER DUTIES.—The Attorney General, acting  
17        through the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance  
18        of the Department of Justice, shall—

19           (1) coordinate programs relating to missing  
20        adults that are funded by the Federal Government;

21           (2) provide access to the National Crime Infor-  
22        mation Center of the Federal Bureau of Investiga-  
23        tion to the public agencies or nonprofit private orga-  
24        nizations receiving a grant pursuant to subsection  
25        (a)(1).

1 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
3 this Act, \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through  
4 2018.

