October 18, 2017 - Introduced by Senators TESTIN, JOHNSON, MARKLEIN, CARPENTER, HARS DORE, HANSEN and RINGHAND, cosponsored by Representatives KLEEFISCH, GOYKE, PETRYK, ANDERSON, BERCEAU, EDMING, MILROY, MURSAU, OHNSTAD, POPE, RIPP, SINICKI, TITTL, ZEP NICK and RIEMER. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

AN ACT to amend 165.785 (1) (b) 2., 165.785 (2m) (a) 1., 165.785 (2m) (a) 2., 165.785 (2m) (b) and 175.51 (title); and to create 175.51 (1v) of the statutes; relating to: alerts for missing veterans who have a service-related health condition.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The Department of Justice currently administers an integrated crime alert network and may use the network to provide to state agencies, law enforcement, or the public information regarding criminal activity, crime prevention, and missing or endangered persons. This bill requires DOJ to allow law enforcement agencies to use the network to disseminate to broadcasters and outdoor advertisers reports of missing veterans or members of the armed forces who are at risk due to a physical or mental health condition that is related to their service.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 165.785 (1) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:
165.785 (1) (b) 2. The department shall ensure that a law enforcement agency may access the network under par. (a) to disseminate a report under s. 175.51 (1m) or (1v) to persons on the list maintained under sub. (2m) (c).

SECTION 2. 165.785 (2m) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

165.785 (2m) (a) 1. The department shall provide a form for reports of missing adults at risk under s. 175.51 (1m) and missing veterans at risk under s. 175.51 (1v) that law enforcement agencies can access through the integrated crime alert network.

SECTION 3. 165.785 (2m) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

165.785 (2m) (a) 2. The department shall train law enforcement officers on identifying reports of adults at risk and veterans at risk that are appropriate for dissemination under sub. (1) (b) 2., using the form provided under subd. 1., and accessing the network to disseminate the report.

SECTION 4. 165.785 (2m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

165.785 (2m) (b) The department shall work directly with persons on the list maintained under par. (c) and with government agencies, broadcasters, and public and private organizations with missions focused on adults or veterans at risk to develop criteria for law enforcement officers to use to identify reports of missing adults or veterans at risk that are appropriate to disseminate under s. 175.51 (1m) or (1v), to determine the most effective methods and guidelines for the persons on the list maintained under par. (c) to use to broadcast or make public reports of missing adults or veterans at risk, and to receive feedback on the forms provided under par. (a) 1. and on the list maintained under par. (c).

SECTION 5. 175.51 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:
175.51 (title) Reports of missing adults and veterans at risk and of hit-and-run incidents.

SECTION 6. 175.51 (1v) of the statutes is created to read:

175.51 (1v) (a) In this subsection, “veteran at risk” means a veteran or an active-duty member of the armed forces, the national guard, or the military reserve forces of the United States who is known to have a physical or mental health condition that is related to his or her service.

(b) If a law enforcement agency receives a report of a missing veteran at risk that is provided within 72 hours of the individual’s disappearance, the law enforcement agency shall use the form under s. 165.785 (2m) (a) 1. and the integrated crime alert network to disseminate the report as soon as practically possible if there is reason to believe that the veteran at risk is missing due to his or her physical or mental health condition that is related to his or her service.

(END)