

By Senator Pizzo

37-01448-26

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to missing endangered persons;
creating s. 937.032, F.S.; authorizing hospitals to
disclose specified information about admitted patients
to law enforcement agencies for a specified purpose
and under certain circumstances; authorizing hospitals
to search and use hospital records of admitted
patients to identify potential matches to persons
listed as missing on the Missing Endangered Persons
Information Clearinghouse; authorizing hospitals to
report to the appropriate law enforcement agency if
they suspect that an admitted patient of the hospital
matches the description of a missing endangered person
in the clearinghouse; authorizing the Agency for
Health Care Administration to adopt certain rules;
providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 937.032, Florida Statutes, is created to
read:

937.032 Missing endangered persons; hospital records;
access and use.—

(1) In accordance with 45 C.F.R. s. 164.512(f)(2), a
hospital may disclose any of the following information about an
admitted patient to a law enforcement agency, either upon
request or pursuant to subsection (2), for the limited purpose
of identifying or locating a missing endangered person:

(a) Name and address.

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30 (b) Date and place of birth.

31 (c) Social security number.

32 (d) ABO blood type and rh factor.

33 (e) Type of injury.

34 (f) Date and time of treatment.

35 (g) Date and time of death, if applicable.

36 (h) A description of distinguishing physical
37 characteristics, including height, weight, gender, race, hair
38 and eye color, scars, tattoos, and presence or absence of facial
39 hair, such as a beard or moustache.

40 (2) Hospitals may search and use hospital records of
41 admitted patients for purposes of identifying potential matches
42 to persons listed as missing on the Missing Endangered Persons
43 Information Clearinghouse. If it is suspected that an admitted
44 patient of the hospital matches the description of a missing
45 endangered person in the clearinghouse, the hospital may report
46 any of the information specified in subsection (1) to the
47 appropriate law enforcement agency.

48 (3) The Agency for Health Care Administration may adopt
49 rules to implement uniform reporting procedures for hospitals
50 under this section.

51 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.