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March 23, 2005 LB 111

agencies concerning the appropriate procedures to report missing persons to the clearinghouse. The patrol would have to cooperate with other states and the National Crime Information Center in the exchange of information on missing persons. would have to maintain a statewide toll-free telephone line 24 hours a day to receive and disseminate information relating to missing persons. They would have to maintain an Internet web site accessible to law enforcement agencies and to the public with information on missing persons, and with information about resources available through the clearinghouse. They would have to develop training programs to assist in the prevention of kidnapping, because some of these missing people are, indeed, kidnapped. They would maintain a registry of prevention and education materials, and programs regarding missing and runaway minors through hard copy or electronic means. They would distribute, through hard copy or electronic means, monthly missing persons bulletins to law enforcement agencies and to other interested individuals and media outlets that request the information. So basically, what it is, is it's a repository for information on those individuals that are missing, something that our state lacks. I think that statistics show that education and public awareness is absolutely vital in locating these missing individuals. Just to give you some statistics: every 37 seconds a child disappears in our country; 103,768 active missing cases are now listed with the FBI. And again, as mentioned, 38 states have a clearinghouse similar to what I'm proposing here. Again, it's a centralized repository that resides with the State Patrol. It's designed to create awareness and to provide information to law enforcement agencies to, one, prevent people from becoming missing, and to locate them once they are. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions or comments or concerns. Be happy to address any of those. But I would appreciate your support. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. You've heard the opening on LB 111. Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, there are no committee amendments. I do have an amendment from Senator Stuhr. This is FA105. (Legislative Journal page 883.)