



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Committee Bill No. 536

LCO No. 3792

03792SB00536JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR SERVICES RELATED TO IDENTIFICATION OF MISSING AND ABDUCTED CHILDREN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 52-557q of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (a) No claim for damages shall be made against a broadcaster, as
4 defined in subsection (l) of section 12-218, or an outdoor advertising
5 establishment, as described in the United States Department of Labor
6 Standard Industrial Classification System Code 7312, that, pursuant to
7 a voluntary program between broadcasters and law enforcement
8 agencies, or between law enforcement agencies and outdoor
9 advertising establishments, broadcasts or disseminates an emergency
10 alert and information provided by a law enforcement agency
11 concerning the abduction of a child, including, but not limited to, a
12 photograph, description, or both, of the abducted child, a photograph,
13 description, or both of the suspected abductor and the circumstances
14 of the abduction. Nothing in this section shall be construed to (1) limit
15 or restrict in any way any legal protection a broadcaster or outdoor
16 advertising establishment may have under any other law for

17 broadcasting, outdoor advertising or otherwise disseminating any
18 information, or (2) relieve a law enforcement agency from acting
19 reasonably in providing information to the broadcaster or outdoor
20 advertising establishment.

21 (b) No claim for damages shall be made against a civic, educational
22 or charitable organization, or any volunteer, member or employee of
23 such organization, for injury resulting from the organization's
24 activities to register, photograph and compile descriptions of children
25 for inclusion in a database approved by a law enforcement agency to
26 aid in describing a missing or abducted child in the event of an
27 emergency alert if such activities are conducted pursuant to a
28 voluntary program between a law enforcement agency and the
29 organization. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or
30 restrict in any way any legal protection such organization, volunteer,
31 member or employee may have under any other law related to such
32 activities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	52-557q

Statement of Purpose:

To extend existing protections from liability related to the Connecticut Amber Alert System to certain voluntary registration and identification activities related to missing and abducted children.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.

S.B. 536