

Premise Alert Database

This Act directs public safety agencies to establish and use a database of information about people with disabilities or special needs to help such agencies respond more effectively to such people.

Submitted as:

Illinois

[Public Act 096-0788](#)

Status: Enacted into law in 2009.

Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

1 Section 1. [*Short Title.*] This Act shall be cited as “An Act to Establish a Premise Alert
2 Database.”

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 Section 2. [*Definitions.*] As used in this Act:

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 (1) “Disability” means an individual’s physical or mental impairment that substantially
6 limits one or more of the major life activities; a record of such impairment; or when the
7 individual is regarded as having such impairment.

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 (2) “Special needs individuals” means those individuals who have or are at increased risk
9 for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require
10 health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by individuals generally.

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 (3) “Public safety agency” means a functional division of a public agency that provides
12 firefighting, police, medical, or other emergency services.

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 (4) “Computer Aided Dispatch” means a database maintained by a public safety agency
14 or public safety answering point used in conjunction with 9-1-1 caller data.

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 (5) “Premise Alert Database” means a Computer-Aided Dispatch database of information
16 about individuals with disabilities or special needs.

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18 Section 3. [*Purpose.*] The ability to effectively deal with individuals with disabilities or
19 special needs is enhanced with knowledge and information about such individuals. It is the
20 policy of this state to ensure consistently high levels of public safety services are available to
21 everyone, including people who may require special consideration in order to access services.
22 The Premise Alert Database will help ensure individuals with disabilities or special needs get the
23 same access to public safety services as provided to other citizens.

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 Section 4. [*Premise Alert Database.*]

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 (A) Public safety agencies in this state operating a Computer Aided Dispatch shall create
27 and maintain a Premise Alert Database. Information in the the Premise Alert Database shall
28 include a person’s name, date of birth, phone number, address, place of employment, and the
29 nature of their disability or special need. The public safety agencies shall develop procedures to
30 enable public safety personnel and the public to submit information to the Premise Alert
31 Database.

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 (B) The establishment and continued existence of the Premise Alert Database shall be
33 based on funding availability.

34 (C) Public safety agencies shall make reasonable efforts to publicize the Premise Alert
35 Database. Means of publicizing the database include, but are not limited to, pamphlets and
36 websites.

37 (D) Individuals with disabilities or special needs, or their families or caregivers, may
38 contact their local law enforcement agency or fire department or fire protection district to submit
39 information to the Premise Alert Database.

40 (E) Whenever possible, it is preferable that written permission is obtained from an
41 individual with a disability or special need, their parent, guardian, family member, or caregiver,
42 before information about the individual with a disability or special need is entered into the
43 Premise Alert Database.

44 (F) No information about an individual with disabilities or special needs may be entered
45 into a Premise Alert Database unless that individual's disability or special need has been
46 verified. Acceptable means of verifying a disability or special need can be statements by the
47 individual, family members, friends, caregivers, or medical personnel familiar with the
48 individual.

49 (G) Public safety workers are to be cognitive of individuals with disabilities or special
50 needs whom they may come across when they respond to calls. If such workers are able to
51 identify individuals who have a disability or special needs, they must try to ascertain the
52 disability or special need and get the individual's name, date of birth, phone number, address,
53 and place of employment for possible entry into the Premise Alert Database using the procedures
54 established under subsection (A).

55 (H) Any person designated by a public safety agency to control data entered into the
56 Premise Alert Database shall develop policies and procedures to control such data.

57 (I) Public safety agencies sharing the same Computer Aided Dispatch shall disseminate
58 information collected by one agency for the Premise Alert Database to all agencies using that
59 dispatch.

60 (J) Information about individuals with disabilities or special needs which is received by
61 any public safety agency that does not use the Premise Alert Database shall be accepted and
62 forwarded to an agency that uses the Premise Alert Database as soon as possible.

63 (K) All information entered into the Premise Alert Database must be updated every [2]
64 years or when such information changes.

65 (L) When information from the Premise Alert Database about individuals with
66 disabilities or special needs is reported in a Computer Aided Dispatch, the telecommunicator
67 shall relay that information to responding public safety personnel.

68 (M) Information in the Premise Alert Database shall remain strictly confidential. The
69 information shall be used only to provide assistance to emergency medical and police
70 responders. No public safety worker shall knowingly violate this confidentiality clause. Citizens
71 who believe their health privacy rights have been violated may file a complaint with the U.S.
72 Department of Health and Human Services via the Office of Civil Rights.

73 (N) Except for willful or wanton misconduct, a public safety agency shall not be subject
74 to civil liabilities for duties relating to the reporting of information about individuals with
75 disabilities or special needs.

76 (O) People who submit information about themselves or someone else to the Premise
77 Alert Database must be advised that providing such information will not result in preferential
78 treatment of them or the person about whom they submitted the information.

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80 Section 5. [*Severability.*] [Insert severability clause.]

81

82 Section 6. [*Repealer.*] [Insert repealer clause.]

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Section 7. [*Effective Date.*] [Insert effective date.]