

Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

Bill Summary

Bill Number: S1755

Name: An Act relative to Massachusetts policy and procedures for missing and abducted children

Sponsor(s): Senator Payano

Hearing Date: 7/24/25

Summary:

This bill requires the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) to develop a Massachusetts Policy and Procedures for Missing and Abducted Children Investigations, setting minimum standards for law enforcement agencies. Based on best practices, including guidelines from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, it will cover cases involving children under 10 and 17 years old and individuals with mental or physical limitations. The Municipal Police Training Committee will implement a mandatory two-hour training for veteran officers in 2026 and integrate it into police academy curricula, with local departments conducting training at least once every three years. EOPSS will also update internal policies and the Missing Child Clearinghouse intake form, making it available in multiple languages. Law enforcement agencies must adopt these policies by January 15, 2027, ensuring a standardized approach to missing child investigations statewide.