

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 8**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Gatto**

December 1, 2014

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An act to add Section 8594.15 to the Government Code, relating to emergency services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 8, as introduced, Gatto. Emergency services: hit-and-run incidents.

Existing law authorizes use of the Emergency Alert System to inform the public of local, state, and national emergencies. Existing law requires a law enforcement agency to activate the Emergency Alert System within the appropriate area if that agency determines that a child 17 years of age or younger, or an individual with a proven mental or physical disability, has been abducted and is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death, and there is information available that, if disseminated to the general public, could assist in the safe recovery of that person. Existing law also authorizes the issuance and coordination of a Blue Alert following an attack upon a law enforcement officer or a Silver Alert relating to a person who is 65 years of age or older who is reported missing.

This bill would authorize a law enforcement agency to issue a Yellow Alert if a person has been killed or has suffered serious bodily injury due to a hit-and-run incident and the law enforcement agency has specified information concerning the suspect or the suspect's vehicle. The bill would require the Department of the California Highway Patrol to activate a Yellow Alert within the requested geographic area upon

request if it concurs with the law enforcement agency that specified requirements are met.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 8594.15 is added to the Government  
2 Code, to read:

3 8594.15. (a) For purposes of this section, “Yellow Alert”  
4 means a notification system, activated pursuant to subdivision (b),  
5 designed to issue and coordinate alerts with respect to a hit-and-run  
6 incident resulting in the death or injury of a person as described  
7 in Section 20001 of the Vehicle Code.

8 (b) (1) If a hit-and-run incident is reported to a law enforcement  
9 agency, and that agency determines that the requirements of  
10 subdivision (c) are met, the agency may request the Department  
11 of the California Highway Patrol to activate a Yellow Alert. If the  
12 Department of the California Highway Patrol concurs that the  
13 requirements of subdivision (c) are met, it shall activate a Yellow  
14 Alert within the geographic area requested by the investigating  
15 law enforcement agency.

16 (2) Radio, television, and cable and satellite systems are  
17 encouraged, but are not required, to cooperate with disseminating  
18 the information contained in a Yellow Alert.

19 (3) Upon activation of a Yellow Alert, the Department of the  
20 California Highway Patrol shall assist the investigating law  
21 enforcement agency by issuing the Yellow Alert via a local digital  
22 sign.

23 (c) A law enforcement agency may request that a Yellow Alert  
24 be activated if that agency determines that all of the following  
25 conditions are met in regard to the investigation of the hit-and-run  
26 incident:

27 (1) A person has been killed or has suffered serious bodily injury  
28 due to a hit-and-run incident.

29 (2) The investigating law enforcement agency has additional  
30 information concerning the suspect or the suspect’s vehicle,  
31 including, but not limited to, any of the following:

32 (A) The complete license plate number of the suspect’s vehicle.

- 1 (B) A partial license plate number and the make, model, and
- 2 color of the suspect's vehicle.
- 3 (C) The identity of the suspect.
- 4 (3) Public dissemination of available information could either
- 5 help avert further harm or accelerate apprehension of the suspect.

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