

My name is Mel Aanerud

I am just a private citizen

I saw that this bill has been introduced every year since 2015. After 2015 it has not had a hearing. In 2015 we would have been one of the first states with this provision, now we are going to be one of the last.

So I thank Representative Moller and Newton for getting this bill a hearing

I should point out that there is also a GOP sponsor on a similar bill - Representative Paul Novotny.

In the 1970's I did some promotion of bills like the procurement set aside bill which I wrote and promoted. So I know how to do this, but after falling and shattering a disk, my efforts were confined

Everyone member got one communications from me – some more than one, but I wasn't over here like I wanted to be. I got the State DFL Senior Caucus and the AFL-CIO Retirees Council to have this one of their supported bill

this year, before my fall, sorry I couldn't get more, but I am sure I could have.

I talked to nurses who worked at senior facilities and they tell me that senior citizens with dementia, traumatic brain injury, Alzheimer's disease, or other cognitive impairments walk away more often than people know.

There is not a good study of the problem so I can't tell you how great the problem is and I am not asking you to fund one, because this is not a year to spend

The Silver Alert System seems like one of those items that everyone could support. Since the Amber Alert is in place, the state can have this program at no cost.

As the United States population ages, the prevalence of dementia will grow and communities will be faced with even a greater problem of older adults wandering off or becoming lost. Silver Alert systems are state programs that are designed to locate missing older adults with dementia or other mental disabilities.

We do not know if it will save a one life in Minnesota, or if it will ever be used for that matter, but it may and at no cost maybe saving a life seems to be worth the effort. I ask you to support this bill.