

Public Law 97-292
97th Congress

An Act

To amend title 28, United States Code, to require the Attorney General to acquire and exchange information to assist Federal, State, and local officials in the identification of certain deceased individuals and in the location of missing persons (including unemancipated persons).

Oct. 12, 1982

[H.R. 6976]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Missing Children Act".

Missing
Children Act.
28 USC 1 note.

SEC. 2. (a) Section 534(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

- (1) by striking out "and" at the end of paragraph (1);
- (2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4);
- (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraphs:

"(2) acquire, collect, classify, and preserve any information which would assist in the identification of any deceased individual who has not been identified after the discovery of such deceased individual;

Deceased
individuals.

"(3) acquire, collect, classify, and preserve any information which would assist in the location of any missing person (including an unemancipated person as defined by the laws of the place of residence of such person) and provide confirmation as to any entry for such a person to the parent, legal guardian, or next of kin of that person (and the Attorney General may acquire, collect, classify, and preserve such information from such parent, guardian, or next of kin);"; and

(4) by striking out "exchange these records" in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated) and inserting in lieu thereof "exchange such records and information".

(b) Section 534(b) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

- (1) by inserting "and information" after "records"; and
- (2) by striking out "(a)(2)" and inserting "(a)(4)" in lieu thereof.

SEC. 3. (a) The heading for section 534 of title 28, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 534. Acquisition, preservation, and exchange of identification records and information; appointment of officials”.

(b) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 33 of such title is amended by striking out the item relating to section 534 and inserting in lieu thereof the following new item:

“534. Acquisition, preservation, and exchange of identification records and information; appointment of officials.”.

Approved October 12, 1982.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 6976 (S. 1701):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 97-820 (Comm. on the Judiciary) and No. 97-911 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORT No. 97-583 accompanying S. 1701 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 128 (1982):

Sept. 20, considered and passed House.

Sept. 23, S. 1701 considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 28, H.R. 6976 considered and passed Senate, amended.

Sept. 30, House agreed to conference report.

Oct. 1, Senate agreed to conference report.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 18, No. 41 (1982):

Oct. 12, Presidential statement.