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**Bill by Representative Casello to Create a “Purple Alert”  
System Passes Final Committee Stop**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – [HB 79](#) by Representative **Joe Casello**(**D-Boynton Beach**) to create a new “Purple Alert” alert system has unanimously passed the Judiciary Committee on Wednesday afternoon and is now on its way to a full floor vote.

The Purple Alert would operate similarly to the existing Silver Alert, which primarily covers those over 60, and the Amber Alert, which covers those under 18, but fill in the gaps for those with cognitive, intellectual or developmental disability or one with a brain injury or another mental, physical or emotional disability that is not related to substance abuse.

Friends and family of Joshua Marshall, a 30-year-old Port St. Lucie man who was nonverbal and autistic, inspired the bill. Joshua was found dead in August of 2018 in a pond near where he lived after wandering away from home. Many saw him but due to no proper alert system, Joshua was never able to receive the help he so desperately needed.

“I look forward to bringing this life-saving bill to the House Floor in hopes of protecting the vulnerable like Joshua Marshall,” said **Representative Casello**.

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