

Calendar No. 146

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 725

[Report No. 119–59]

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting, to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification system, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2025

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BUDD, Mr. KING, Mr. THUNE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. CRAPO, and Ms. CANTWELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

Reported by Mr. CRUZ, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting, to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the

Standard Occupational Classification system, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing First Re-
 5 sponse Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF DISASTER INFOR-**
 7 **MATION REPORTING SYSTEM; IMPROVE-**
 8 **MENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORTING.**

9 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

10 (1) **AUTOMATIC LOCATION INFORMATION;**
 11 **AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION.**—The terms
 12 “Automatic Location Information” and “Automatic
 13 Number Identification” have the meanings given
 14 those terms in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Fed-
 15 eral Regulations, or any successor regulation.

16 (2) **BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.**—
 17 The term “broadband internet access service” has
 18 the meaning given the term in section 8.1(b) of title
 19 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor
 20 regulation.

21 (3) **COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.**—The term
 22 “commercial mobile service” has the meaning given
 23 the term in section 332(d) of the Communications
 24 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

1 (4) ~~COMMERCIAL MOBILE DATA SERVICE.~~—The
 2 term “commercial mobile data service” has the
 3 meaning given the term in ~~section 6001~~ of the Mid-
 4 dle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012
 5 (47 U.S.C. 1401).

6 (5) ~~COMMISSION.~~—The term “Commission”
 7 means the Federal Communications Commission.

8 (6) ~~INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOV-~~
 9 ~~ERNMENT.~~—The terms “Indian tribal government”
 10 and “local government” have the meanings given
 11 those terms in ~~section 102~~ of the Robert T. Stafford
 12 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
 13 U.S.C. 5122).

14 (7) ~~INTERCONNECTED VOIP SERVICE; STATE.~~—
 15 The terms “interconnected VoIP service” and
 16 “State” have the meanings given those terms in sec-
 17 tion ~~3~~ of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
 18 U.S.C. 153).

19 (8) ~~MULTI-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM.~~—The
 20 term “multi-line telephone system” has the meaning
 21 given the term in ~~section 721(f)~~ of the Communica-
 22 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 623(f)).

23 (9) ~~OUTAGE.~~—The term “outage” has the
 24 meaning given the term in ~~section 4.5~~ of title 47,

1 Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regu-
 2 lation.

3 ~~(10) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.~~—The
 4 term “public safety answering point” has the mean-
 5 ing given the term in section 222(h) of the Commu-
 6 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222(h)).

7 ~~(11) SYSTEM.~~—The term “System” means the
 8 Disaster Information Reporting System.

9 ~~(b) REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF DISASTER IN-~~
 10 ~~FORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM.—~~

11 ~~(1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—~~

12 ~~(A) IN GENERAL.~~—Not later than 6 weeks
 13 after the deactivation of the System with re-
 14 spect to an event for which the System was ac-
 15 tivated for not less than 7 days, the Commis-
 16 sion shall issue a preliminary report on, with
 17 respect to such event and to the extent
 18 known—

19 ~~(i) the number and duration of any~~
 20 ~~outages of—~~

21 ~~(I) broadband internet access~~
 22 ~~service;~~

23 ~~(II) interconnected VoIP service;~~

24 ~~(III) commercial mobile service;~~

25 and

1 (IV) commercial mobile data
2 service;

3 (ii) the approximate number of users
4 or the amount of communications infra-
5 structure potentially affected by an outage
6 described in clause (i);

7 (iii) the number and duration of any
8 outages that prevent public safety answer-
9 ing points from receiving caller location or
10 number information or receiving emer-
11 gency calls and routing such calls to emer-
12 gency service personnel; and

13 (iv) any additional information deter-
14 mined appropriate by the Commission.

15 (B) DEVELOPMENT OF REPORT.—The
16 Commission shall develop the report required by
17 subparagraph (A) using information collected
18 by the Commission, including information col-
19 lected by the Commission through the System.

20 (2) PUBLIC FIELD HEARINGS.—

21 (A) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 8
22 months after the deactivation of the System
23 with respect to an event for which the System
24 was activated for not less than 7 days, the

Commission shall hold not less than 1 public field hearing in the area affected by such event.

~~(B) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS IN HEARINGS.~~—For each public field hearing held under subparagraph (A), the Commission shall consider including—

(i) representatives of State government, local government, or Indian tribal governments in areas affected by such event;

(ii) residents of the areas affected by such event, or consumer advocates;

(iii) providers of communications services affected by such event;

(iv) faculty of institutions of higher education;

(v) representatives of other Federal agencies;

(vi) electric utility providers;

(vii) communications infrastructure companies; and

(viii) first responders, emergency managers, or 9–1–1 directors in areas affected by such event.

1 ~~(3) FINAL REPORT.—~~Not later than 12 months
 2 after the deactivation of the System with respect to
 3 an event for which the System was activated for not
 4 less than 7 days, the Commission shall issue a final
 5 report that includes, with respect to such event—

6 ~~(A)~~ the information described in paragraph
 7 ~~(1)(A)~~; and

8 ~~(B)~~ any recommendations of the Commis-
 9 sion on how to improve the resiliency of af-
 10 fected communications or networks recovery ef-
 11 forts.

12 ~~(4) DEVELOPMENT OF REPORTS.—~~In devel-
 13 oping a report required under this subsection, the
 14 Commission shall consider information collected by
 15 the Commission, including information collected by
 16 the Commission through the System, and any public
 17 hearing described in paragraph ~~(2)~~ with respect to
 18 the applicable event.

19 ~~(5) PUBLICATION.—~~The Commission shall pub-
 20 lish each report, excluding information that is other-
 21 wise exempt from public disclosure under the rules
 22 of the Commission, issued under this subsection on
 23 the website of the Commission upon the issuance of
 24 such report.

1 (c) IMPROVEMENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORT-
 2 ING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
 3 of this Act, the Commission shall investigate and publish
 4 a report on—

5 (1) the value to public safety agencies of origi-
 6 nating service providers including visual information
 7 to improve situational awareness about outages in
 8 the notifications provided to public safety answering
 9 points, as required by rules issued by the Commis-
 10 sion;

11 (2) the volume and nature of 911 outages that
 12 may go unreported under the outage notification
 13 thresholds of the Commission; and

14 (3) recommended changes to rules issued by the
 15 Commission to address paragraphs (1) and (2).

16 **SEC. 3. REPORTING OF PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICA-**
 17 **TORS AS PROTECTIVE SERVICE OCCUPA-**
 18 **TIONS.**

19 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

20 (1) Public safety telecommunicators play a crit-
 21 ical role in emergency response, providing medical
 22 instruction, gathering lifesaving information, and
 23 protecting civilians and first responders.

24 (2) The Standard Occupational Classification
 25 system is designed and maintained solely for statis-

1 tical purposes, and is used by Federal statistical
 2 agencies to classify workers and jobs into occupa-
 3 tional categories for the purpose of collecting, calcu-
 4 lating, analyzing, or disseminating data.

5 (3) Occupations in the Standard Occupational
 6 Classification are classified based on work performed
 7 and, in some cases, on the skills, education, or train-
 8 ing needed to perform the work.

9 (4) Classifying public safety telecommunicators
 10 as a protective service occupation would correct an
 11 inaccurate representation in the Standard Occupa-
 12 tional Classification, recognize these professionals
 13 for the lifesaving work they perform, and better
 14 align the Standard Occupational Classification with
 15 related classification systems.

16 (b) STANDARD OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYS-
 17 TEM.—The Director of the Office of Management and
 18 Budget shall, not later than 30 days after the date of en-
 19 actment of this Act, categorize public safety telecommu-
 20 nicators as a protective service occupation under the
 21 Standard Occupational Classification system.

22 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KARI'S LAW**
 23 **ACT OF 2017.**

24 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
 25 of this Act, the Inspector General of the Commission shall

1 publish a report regarding the enforcement by the Com-
 2 mission of section 721 of the Communications Act of 1934
 3 (47 U.S.C. 623), which shall include—

4 (1) a summary of the extent to which multi-line
 5 telephone system manufacturers and vendors have
 6 complied with that section;

7 (2) potential difficulties and obstacles in com-
 8 plying with that section;

9 (3) recommendations to the Commission, if nec-
 10 essary, on ways to improve the policies of the Com-
 11 mission to better enforce that section; and

12 (4) recommendations to Congress, if necessary,
 13 on further legislation that could mitigate problems
 14 like those that are addressed by that section.

15 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

16 *This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing First Re-*
 17 *sponse Act”.*

18 **SEC. 2. REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF DISASTER INFOR-**
 19 **MATION REPORTING SYSTEM; IMPROVE-**
 20 **MENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORTING.**

21 (a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

22 (1) *AUTOMATIC LOCATION INFORMATION; AUTO-*
 23 *MATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION.—The terms “Auto-*
 24 *matic Location Information” and “Automatic Num-*
 25 *ber Identification” have the meanings given those*

1 *terms in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Regu-*
 2 *lations, or any successor regulation.*

3 (2) *BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.*—
 4 *The term “broadband internet access service” has the*
 5 *meaning given the term in section 8.1(b) of title 47,*
 6 *Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regula-*
 7 *tion.*

8 (3) *COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.*—*The term*
 9 *“commercial mobile service” has the meaning given*
 10 *the term in section 332(d) of the Communications Act*
 11 *of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).*

12 (4) *COMMERCIAL MOBILE DATA SERVICE.*—*The*
 13 *term “commercial mobile data service” has the mean-*
 14 *ing given the term in section 6001 of the Middle Class*
 15 *Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C.*
 16 *1401).*

17 (5) *COMMISSION.*—*The term “Commission”*
 18 *means the Federal Communications Commission.*

19 (6) *INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOV-*
 20 *ERNMENT.*—*The terms “Indian tribal government”*
 21 *and “local government” have the meanings given*
 22 *those terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford*
 23 *Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42*
 24 *U.S.C. 5122).*

1 (7) *INTERCONNECTED VOIP SERVICE*.—*The term*
 2 *“interconnected VoIP service” has the meaning given*
 3 *that term in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Federal*
 4 *Regulations, or any successor regulation.*

5 (8) *MULTI-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM*.—*The term*
 6 *“multi-line telephone system” has the meaning given*
 7 *the term in section 721(f) of the Communications Act*
 8 *of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 623(f)).*

9 (9) *OUTAGE*.—*The term “outage” has the mean-*
 10 *ing given the term in section 4.5 of title 47, Code of*
 11 *Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.*

12 (10) *PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT*.—*The*
 13 *term “public safety answering point” has the mean-*
 14 *ing given the term in section 222(h) of the Commu-*
 15 *nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222(h)).*

16 (11) *STATE*.—*The term “State” has the meaning*
 17 *given that term in section 3 of the Communications*
 18 *Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).*

19 (12) *SYSTEM*.—*The term “System” means the*
 20 *Disaster Information Reporting System.*

21 (b) *REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF THE DISASTER*
 22 *INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM*.—

23 (1) *PUBLIC HEARINGS*.—

24 (A) *REQUIREMENT*.—*Each year, the Com-*
 25 *mission shall hold not less than 1 public hearing*

1 *relating to all events during the preceding 1-year*
2 *period for which the System was activated for*
3 *not less than 7 days.*

4 *(B) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS IN*
5 *PUBLIC HEARINGS.—For each public hearing*
6 *held under subparagraph (A), the Commission*
7 *shall consider including—*

8 *(i) representatives of State government,*
9 *local government, or Indian tribal govern-*
10 *ments in areas affected by such event;*

11 *(ii) residents of the areas affected by*
12 *such event, or consumer advocates;*

13 *(iii) providers of communications serv-*
14 *ices affected by such event;*

15 *(iv) faculty of institutions of higher*
16 *education;*

17 *(v) representatives of other Federal*
18 *agencies;*

19 *(vi) electric utility providers;*

20 *(vii) communications infrastructure*
21 *companies; and*

22 *(viii) first responders, emergency man-*
23 *agers, and 911 directors in areas affected by*
24 *such event.*

1 (2) *REPORT.*—Not later than 120 days after the
 2 public hearing under paragraph (1) occurs, the Com-
 3 mission shall issue a report that includes, with re-
 4 spect to such event and to the extent known without
 5 requiring the collection of additional information—

6 (A) the number and duration of any out-
 7 ages of—

8 (i) broadband internet access service;

9 (ii) interconnected VoIP service;

10 (iii) commercial mobile service; and

11 (iv) commercial mobile data service;

12 (B) the approximate number of users and
 13 the amount of communications infrastructure
 14 potentially affected by an outage described in
 15 subparagraph (A);

16 (C) the number and duration of any out-
 17 ages that prevent public safety answering points
 18 from receiving caller location or number infor-
 19 mation or receiving emergency calls and routing
 20 such calls to emergency service personnel; and

21 (D) any recommendations of the Commis-
 22 sion on how to improve the resiliency of affected
 23 communications or networks recovery efforts.

24 (3) *DEVELOPMENT OF REPORTS.*—In developing
 25 a report required under paragraph (2), the Commis-

1 *sion shall consider information collected by the Com-*
2 *mission, including information collected by the Com-*
3 *mission through the System, and any public hearing*
4 *described in paragraph (1) with respect to the appli-*
5 *cable event.*

6 (4) *PUBLICATION.*—*The Commission shall pub-*
7 *lish each report, excluding information that is other-*
8 *wise exempt from public disclosure under the rules of*
9 *the Commission or was submitted to the Commission*
10 *with a proper request for confidential treatment as*
11 *described in section 0.459 of title 47, Code of Federal*
12 *Regulations, issued under this subsection on the*
13 *website of the Commission upon the issuance of such*
14 *report. The Commission shall not publicly disclose*
15 *company-specific information.*

16 (c) *IMPROVEMENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORT-*
17 *ING.*—*Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of*
18 *this Act, the Commission shall investigate and publish a*
19 *report on—*

20 (1) *the value to public safety agencies of origi-*
21 *nating service providers including visual information*
22 *to improve situational awareness about outages in the*
23 *notifications provided to public safety answering*
24 *points, as required by rules issued by the Commis-*
25 *sion;*

1 (2) *the volume and nature of 911 outages that*
 2 *may go unreported under the outage notification*
 3 *thresholds of the Commission;*

4 (3) *the balance between the value described in*
 5 *paragraph (1) to public safety agencies and the bur-*
 6 *den and practicality for originating service providers*
 7 *of including visual information in outage notifica-*
 8 *tions as described in that paragraph; and*

9 (4) *recommended changes to rules issued by the*
 10 *Commission to address paragraphs (1) and (2).*

11 (d) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act*
 12 *shall be construed to provide the Commission or any other*
 13 *person authority over any provider of broadband internet*
 14 *access service beyond what is specifically authorized under*
 15 *this Act.*

16 **SEC. 3. REPORTING OF PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICA-**
 17 **TORS AS PROTECTIVE SERVICE OCCUPA-**
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 25 *system is designed and maintained solely for statis-*

1 tical purposes, and is used by Federal statistical
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 17 TEM.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
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 20 a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupa-
 21 tional Classification system.

22 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KARI'S LAW**
 23 **ACT OF 2017.**

24 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
 25 of this Act, the Commission shall publish a report regarding

1 *the enforcement by the Commission of section 721 of the*
2 *Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 623), which shall*
3 *include—*

4 *(1) a summary of the extent to which multi-line*
5 *telephone system manufacturers and vendors have*
6 *complied with that section;*

7 *(2) potential difficulties and obstacles in com-*
8 *plying with that section;*

9 *(3) recommendations to the Commission, if nec-*
10 *essary, on ways to improve the policies of the Com-*
11 *mission to better enforce that section; and*

12 *(4) recommendations to Congress, if necessary,*
13 *on further legislation that could mitigate problems*
14 *like those that are addressed by that section.*

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