

(i) One co-chairperson shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the majority leader of the Senate.

(ii) One co-chairperson shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the minority leader of the Senate.

(B) TERM.—The term of a member as a co-chairperson of the Commission shall end on the last day of the Congress during which the member is appointed as a co-chairperson, unless the member ceases being a member of the Senate, leaves the Commission, resigns from the position of co-chairperson, or is removed.

(C) PUBLICATION.—Appointments under this paragraph shall be printed in the Congressional Record.

(D) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the position of co-chairperson of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(b) COMMISSION STAFF.—

(1) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission is authorized, from funds made available under subsection (c), to—

(i) employ such staff in the manner and at a rate not to exceed that allowed for employees of a committee of the Senate under section 105(e)(3) of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1968 (2 U.S.C. 4575(e)(3)); and

(ii) incur such expenses as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out its duties and functions.

(B) EXPENSES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Payments made under this subsection for receptions, meals, and food-related expenses shall be authorized only for actual expenses incurred by the Commission in the course of conducting its official duties and functions.

(ii) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—Amounts received as reimbursement for expenses described in clause (i) shall not be reported as income, and the expenses so reimbursed shall not be allowed as a deduction under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) DESIGNATION OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each co-chairperson of the Commission may designate 1 professional staff member.

(B) COMPENSATION OF SENATE EMPLOYEES.—In the case of the compensation of any professional staff member designated under subparagraph (A) who is an employee of a Member of the Senate or of a committee of the Senate and who has been designated to perform services for the Commission, the professional staff member shall continue to be paid by the Member or committee, as the case may be, but the account from which the professional staff member is paid shall be reimbursed for the services of the professional staff member (including agency contributions when appropriate) out of funds made available under subsection (c).

(C) DUTIES.—Each professional staff member designated under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) serve all members of the Commission; and

(ii) carry out such other functions as the co-chairperson designating the professional staff member may specify.

(c) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The expenses of the Commission shall be paid from the Contingent Fund of the Senate, out of the account of Miscellaneous Items, upon vouchers approved jointly by the co-chairpersons (except that vouchers shall not be required for the disbursement of salaries of employees who are paid at an annual rate of pay).

(2) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE.—For any fiscal year, not more than \$200,000 shall be expended for employees and expenses.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2660. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2661. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2662. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mrs. LOEFFLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2663. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8337, supra.

SA 2664. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2663 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 8337, supra.

SA 2665. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2666. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2667. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2668. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2669. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SCHATZ) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2693, to improve oversight by the Federal Communications Commission of the wireless and broadcast emergency alert systems.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2660. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in Division A, insert the following:

SEC. 1 _____. In addition to amounts provided in section 101, for "Department of Homeland Security—Protection, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery—Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund" there is appropriated \$86,600,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the amount provided herein is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)).

SA 2661. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

(c) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON REDUCTIONS IN AMTRAK OPERATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (commonly known as "Amtrak") may not institute any service cuts or furlough or terminate the employment of any employee (without cause) during the period beginning on October 1,

2020, and ending on the date specified in section 106.

SA 2662. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mrs. LOEFFLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division A, insert the following:

SEC. _____. No recipient, direct or indirect, of funds appropriated under this Act may use the funds to conduct, or enter into a contract for, a management or employee training program or other initiative that—

(1) segregates participants on the basis of race, sex, religion, or any other class enumerated under section 703 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e-2);

(2) does not permit or encourage participants to challenge particular claims made in the course of such initiative; or

(3) advocates or promotes any or all of the following claims that are sometimes considered a part of "Critical Race Theory":

(A) One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex.

(B) The United States is fundamentally racist or sexist.

(C) An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.

(D) An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's race or sex.

(E) Members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex.

(F) An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by the individual's race or sex.

(G) An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex.

(H) Any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of the individual's race or sex.

(I) Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist, or were created by a particular race to oppress another race.

(J) Character traits, values, moral and ethical codes, privileges, status, or beliefs may be ascribed to a race or sex, or to an individual because of the individual's race or sex.

(K) Fault, blame, or bias may be attributed to a race or sex, or to members of a race or sex because of their race or sex.

(L) Consciously or unconsciously, and by virtue of their race or sex, members of any race are inherently racist or are inherently inclined to oppress others, or members of any sex are inherently sexist or are inherently inclined to oppress others.

SA 2663. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following.

"This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment."

SA 2664. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2663 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike “1 day” and insert “2 days”

SA 2665. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following.

“This Act shall take effect 3 days after the date of enactment.”

SA 2666. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike “3 days” and insert “4 days”

SA 2667. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following.

“This Act shall take effect the day after the date of enactment.”

SA 2668. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike “the day” and insert “two days”

SA 2669. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SCHATZ) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2693, to improve oversight by the Federal Communications Commission of the wireless and broadcast emergency alert systems; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Reliable Emergency Alert Distribution Improvement Act of 2020” or “READI Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(2) the term “Commission” means the Federal Communications Commission;

(3) the term “Emergency Alert System” means the national public warning system, the rules for which are set forth in part 11 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation); and

(4) the term “Wireless Emergency Alerts System” means the wireless national public warning system established under the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act (47 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.), the rules for which are set forth in part 10 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

SEC. 3. WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERTS SYSTEM OFFERINGS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 602(b)(2)(E) of the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act (47 U.S.C. 1201(b)(2)(E)) is amended—

(1) by striking the second and third sentences; and

(2) by striking “other than an alert issued by the President.” and inserting the following: “other than an alert issued by—

“(i) the President; or

“(ii) the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.”.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission, in consultation with the Administrator, shall adopt regulations to implement the amendment made by subsection (a)(2).

SEC. 4. STATE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM PLANS AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “SECC” means a State Emergency Communications Committee;

(2) the term “State” means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any possession of the United States; and

(3) the term “State EAS Plan” means a State Emergency Alert System Plan, the rules for which are set forth in part 11 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(b) STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall adopt regulations that—

(1) encourage the chief executive of each State—

(A) to establish an SECC if the State does not have an SECC; or

(B) if the State has an SECC, to review the composition and governance of the SECC;

(2) provide that—

(A) each SECC, not less frequently than annually, shall—

(i) meet to review and update its State EAS Plan;

(ii) certify to the Commission that the SECC has met as required under clause (i); and

(iii) submit to the Commission an updated State EAS Plan; and

(B) not later than 60 days after the date on which the Commission receives an updated State EAS Plan under subparagraph (A)(iii), the Commission shall—

(i) approve or disapprove the updated State EAS Plan; and

(ii) notify the chief executive of the State of the Commission’s findings; and

(3) establish a State EAS Plan content checklist for SECCs to use when reviewing and updating a State EAS Plan for submission to the Commission under paragraph (2)(A).

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Commission shall consult with the Administrator regarding the adoption of regulations under subsection (b)(3).

SEC. 5. FALSE ALERT REPORTING.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission, in consultation with the Administrator, shall complete a rulemaking proceeding to establish a system to receive from the Administrator or State, Tribal, or local governments reports of false alerts under the Emergency Alert System or the Wireless Emergency Alerts System for the purpose of recording such false alerts and examining their causes.

SEC. 6. REPEATING EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM MESSAGES FOR NATIONAL SECURITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission, in consultation with the Administrator, shall complete a rulemaking proceeding to modify the Emergency Alert System to provide for repeating Emergency Alert System messages while an alert remains pending that is issued by—

(1) the President;

(2) the Administrator; or

(3) any other entity under specified circumstances as determined by the Commis-

sion, in consultation with the Administrator.

(b) SCOPE OF RULEMAKING.—Subsection (a)—

(1) shall apply to warnings of national security events, meaning emergencies of national significance, such as a missile threat, terror attack, or other act of war; and

(2) shall not apply to more typical warnings, such as a weather alert, AMBER Alert, or disaster alert.

SEC. 7. INTERNET AND ONLINE STREAMING SERVICES EMERGENCY ALERT EXAMINATION.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and after providing public notice and opportunity for comment, the Commission shall complete an inquiry to examine the feasibility of updating the Emergency Alert System to enable or improve alerts to consumers provided through the internet, including through streaming services.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after completing the inquiry under subsection (a), the Commission shall submit a report on the findings and conclusions of the inquiry to—

(1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. President, I have 7 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 9 a.m. to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session