

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7043

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, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 18, 2024

Ms. MATSUI (for herself and Mr. BILIRAKIS) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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, 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 “Emergency Reporting
5 Act”.

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

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) AUTOMATIC LOCATION INFORMATION;
6 AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION.—The terms
7 “Automatic Location Information” and “Automatic
8 Number Identification” have the meanings given
9 those terms in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Fed-
10 eral Regulations, or any successor regulation.

11 (2) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—
12 The term “broadband internet access service” has
13 the meaning given the term in section 8.1(b) of title
14 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor
15 regulation.

16 (3) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.—The term
17 “commercial mobile service” has the meaning given
18 the term in section 332(d) of the Communications
19 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

20 (4) COMMERCIAL MOBILE DATA SERVICE.—The
21 term “commercial mobile data service” has the
22 meaning given the term in section 6001 of the Mid-
23 dle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012
24 (47 U.S.C. 1401).

25 (5) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
26 means the Federal Communications Commission.

1 (6) INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOV-
2 ERNMENT.—The terms “Indian tribal government”
3 and “local government” have the meanings given
4 those terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford
5 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
6 U.S.C. 5122).

7 (7) INTERCONNECTED VOIP SERVICE; STATE.—
8 The terms “interconnected VoIP service” and
9 “State” have the meanings given those terms in sec-
10 tion 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
11 U.S.C. 153).

12 (8) OUTAGE.—The term “outage” has the
13 meaning given the term in section 4.5 of title 47,
14 Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regu-
15 lation.

16 (9) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.—The
17 term “public safety answering point” has the mean-
18 ing given the term in section 222(h) of the Commu-
19 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222(h)).

20 (10) SYSTEM.—The term “System” means the
21 Disaster Information Reporting System.

22 (b) REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF DISASTER IN-
23 FORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM.—

24 (1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 weeks
2 after the deactivation of the System with re-
3 spect to an event for which the System was ac-
4 tivated for not less than 7 days, the Commis-
5 sion shall issue a preliminary report on, with
6 respect to such event and to the extent
7 known—

8 (i) the number and duration of any
9 outages of—

10 (I) broadband internet access
11 service;

12 (II) interconnected VoIP service;

13 (III) commercial mobile service;

14 and

15 (IV) commercial mobile data
16 service;

17 (ii) the approximate number of users
18 or the amount of communications infra-
19 structure potentially affected by an outage
20 described in clause (i);

21 (iii) the number and duration of any
22 outages that prevent public safety answer-
23 ing points from receiving caller location or
24 number information or receiving emer-

1 agency calls and routing such calls to emer-
2 gency service personnel; and

3 (iv) any additional information deter-
4 mined appropriate by the Commission.

5 (B) DEVELOPMENT OF REPORT.—The
6 Commission shall develop the report required by
7 subparagraph (A) using information collected
8 by the Commission, including information col-
9 lected by the Commission through the System.

10 (2) PUBLIC FIELD HEARINGS.—

11 (A) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 8
12 months after the deactivation of the System
13 with respect to an event for which the System
14 was activated for not less than 7 days, the
15 Commission shall hold not less than 1 public
16 field hearing in the area affected by such event.

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

21 (i) representatives of State govern-
22 ment, local government, or Indian tribal
23 governments in areas affected by such
24 event;

- 1 (ii) residents of the areas affected by
2 such event, or consumer advocates;
- 3 (iii) providers of communications serv-
4 ices affected by such event;
- 5 (iv) faculty of institutions of higher
6 education;
- 7 (v) representatives of other Federal
8 agencies;
- 9 (vi) electric utility providers;
- 10 (vii) communications infrastructure
11 companies; and
- 12 (viii) first responders, emergency
13 managers, or 9–1–1 directors in areas af-
14 fected by such event.

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

20 (A) the information described in paragraph
21 (1)(A); and

22 (B) any recommendations of the Commis-
23 sion on how to improve the resiliency of af-
24 fected communications or networks recovery ef-
25 forts.

1 (4) DEVELOPMENT OF REPORTS.—In devel-
2 oping a report required under this subsection, the
3 Commission shall consider information collected by
4 the Commission, including information collected by
5 the Commission through the System, and any public
6 hearing described in paragraph (2) with respect to
7 the applicable event.

8 (5) PUBLICATION.—The Commission shall pub-
9 lish each report, excluding information that is other-
10 wise exempt from public disclosure under the rules
11 of the Commission, issued under this subsection on
12 the website of the Commission upon the issuance of
13 such report.

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

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

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

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

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