

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 8449  
OFFERED BY MR. PALLONE OF NEW JERSEY**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “AM Radio for Every  
3 Vehicle Act of 2024”.

**4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
7 trator” means the Administrator of the Federal  
8 Emergency Management Agency.

9 (2) AM BROADCAST BAND.—The term “AM  
10 broadcast band” means the band of frequencies be-  
11 tween 535 kilohertz and 1705 kilohertz, inclusive.

12 (3) AM BROADCAST STATION.—The term “AM  
13 broadcast station” means a radio broadcast sta-  
14 tion—

15 (A) licensed by the Federal Communica-  
16 tions Commission for the dissemination of radio  
17 communications intended to be received by the  
18 public; and

1 (B) operated on a channel in the AM  
2 broadcast band.

3 (4) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
4 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
5 gress” means—

6 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
7 and Transportation of the Senate;

8 (B) the Committee on Homeland Security  
9 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

10 (C) the Committee on Transportation and  
11 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

12 (D) the Committee on Homeland Security  
13 of the House of Representatives; and

14 (E) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
15 merce of the House of Representatives.

16 (5) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The term  
17 “Comptroller General” means the Comptroller Gen-  
18 eral of the United States.

19 (6) DEVICE.—The term “device” means a piece  
20 of equipment or an apparatus that is designed—

21 (A) to receive signals transmitted by a  
22 radio broadcast station; and

23 (B) to play back content or programming  
24 derived from those signals.

25 (7) DIGITAL AUDIO AM BROADCAST STATION.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “digital  
2 audio AM broadcast station” means an AM  
3 broadcast station that uses an In Band On  
4 Channel DAB System (as defined in section  
5 73.402 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations  
6 (or a successor regulation)) for broadcasting  
7 purposes.

8 (B) EXCLUSION.—The term “digital audio  
9 AM broadcast station” does not include an All-  
10 digital AM station (as defined in section 73.402  
11 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a  
12 successor regulation)).

13 (8) IPAWS.—The term “IPAWS” means the  
14 public alert and warning system of the United  
15 States described in section 526 of the Homeland Se-  
16 curity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 321o).

17 (9) MANUFACTURER.—The term “manufac-  
18 turer” has the meaning given the term in section  
19 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

20 (10) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term  
21 “passenger motor vehicle” has the meaning given  
22 the term in section 32101 of title 49, United States  
23 Code.

24 (11) RADIO BROADCAST STATION.—The term  
25 “radio broadcast station” has the meaning given the

1 term in section 3 of the Communications Act of  
2 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

3 (12) RADIO STATION LICENSE.—The term  
4 “radio station license” has the meaning given the  
5 term in section 3 of the Communications Act of  
6 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

7 (13) RECEIVE.—The term “receive” means to  
8 receive a broadcast signal via over-the-air trans-  
9 mission.

10 (14) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
11 means the Secretary of Transportation.

12 (15) SIGNAL.—The term “signal” means radio  
13 frequency energy that a holder of a radio station li-  
14 cense intentionally emits or causes to be emitted at  
15 a specified frequency for the purpose of transmitting  
16 content or programming to the public.

17 (16) STANDARD EQUIPMENT.—The term  
18 “standard equipment” means motor vehicle equip-  
19 ment (as defined in section 30102(a) of title 49,  
20 United States Code) that—

21 (A) is installed as a system, part, or com-  
22 ponent of a passenger motor vehicle as origi-  
23 nally manufactured; and

24 (B) the manufacturer of the passenger  
25 motor vehicle recommends or authorizes to be

1 included in the passenger motor vehicle for no  
2 additional or separate monetary fee, payment,  
3 or surcharge, beyond the base price of the pas-  
4 senger motor vehicle.

5 (17) STATE.—The term “State” means each  
6 State of the United States, the District of Columbia,  
7 each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the  
8 United States, and each federally recognized Indian  
9 Tribe.

10 **SEC. 3. AM BROADCAST STATIONS RULE.**

11 (a) RULE REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after  
12 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in con-  
13 sultation with the Administrator and the Federal Commu-  
14 nications Commission, shall issue a rule—

15 (1) requiring devices that can receive signals  
16 and play content transmitted by AM broadcast sta-  
17 tions be installed as standard equipment in pas-  
18 senger motor vehicles—

19 (A) manufactured in the United States for  
20 sale in the United States, imported into the  
21 United States, or shipped in interstate com-  
22 merce; and

23 (B) manufactured after the effective date  
24 of the rule;

1           (2) requiring access to AM broadcast stations  
2 through the devices required under paragraph (1) in  
3 a manner that is easily accessible to drivers; and

4           (3) allowing a manufacturer to comply with  
5 that rule by installing devices as described in para-  
6 graph (1) that can receive signals and play content  
7 transmitted by digital audio AM broadcast stations.

8 (b) COMPLIANCE.—

9           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
10 graph (2), in issuing the rule required under sub-  
11 section (a), the Secretary shall establish an effective  
12 date for the rule that is not less than 2 years, but  
13 not more than 3 years, after the date on which the  
14 rule is issued.

15           (2) CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS.—In issuing the  
16 rule required under subsection (a), the Secretary  
17 shall establish an effective date for the rule that is  
18 at least 4 years after the date on which the rule is  
19 issued with respect to manufacturers that manufac-  
20 tured not more than 40,000 passenger motor vehi-  
21 cles for sale in the United States in 2022.

22           (c) INTERIM REQUIREMENT.—For passenger motor  
23 vehicles manufactured after the date of enactment of this  
24 Act and manufactured in the United States for sale in  
25 the United States, imported into the United States, or

1 shipped in interstate commerce during the period begin-  
2 ning on the day after the date of enactment of this Act  
3 and ending on the day before the effective date of the rule  
4 issued under subsection (a) that do not include devices  
5 that can receive signals and play content transmitted by  
6 AM broadcast stations, the manufacturer of the passenger  
7 motor vehicles—

8           (1) shall provide clear and conspicuous labeling  
9           to inform purchasers of those passenger motor vehi-  
10          cles that the passenger motor vehicles do not include  
11          devices that can receive signals and play content  
12          transmitted by AM broadcast stations; and

13          (2) may not charge an additional or separate  
14          monetary fee, payment, or surcharge, beyond the  
15          base price of the passenger motor vehicles, for access  
16          to AM broadcast stations for the period described in  
17          this subsection.

18          (d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—After the date  
19          of enactment of this Act, a State or a political subdivision  
20          of a State may not prescribe or continue in effect a law,  
21          regulation, or other requirement applicable to access to  
22          AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles.

23          (e) ENFORCEMENT.—

24                 (1) CIVIL PENALTY.—Any person who violates  
25          the rule issued under subsection (a) shall be liable

1 to the United States Government for a civil penalty  
2 under section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States  
3 Code, as if that rule were a regulation described in  
4 that section.

5 (2) CIVIL ACTION.—The Attorney General may  
6 bring a civil action under section 30163 of title 49,  
7 United States Code, in an appropriate district court  
8 of the United States to enjoin a violation of the rule  
9 issued under subsection (a) of this section, as if that  
10 rule were a regulation described in subsection (a)(1)  
11 of that section 30163.

12 (f) GAO STUDY.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General  
14 shall conduct a comprehensive study on dissemi-  
15 nating emergency alerts and warnings to the public.

16 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The study required  
17 under paragraph (1) shall include—

18 (A) an assessment of—

19 (i) the role of passenger motor vehi-  
20 cles in IPAWS communications, including  
21 by providing access to AM broadcast sta-  
22 tions;

23 (ii) the advantages, effectiveness, limi-  
24 tations, resilience, and accessibility of ex-  
25 isting IPAWS communication technologies,



1 including AM broadcast stations in pas-  
2 senger motor vehicles;

3 (iii) the advantages, effectiveness, lim-  
4 itations, resilience, and accessibility of AM  
5 broadcast stations relative to other IPAWS  
6 communication technologies in passenger  
7 motor vehicles; and

8 (iv) whether other IPAWS commu-  
9 nication technologies are capable of ensur-  
10 ing the President (or a designee) can reach  
11 at least 90 percent of the population of the  
12 United States at a time of crisis, including  
13 at night; and

14 (B) a description of any ongoing efforts to  
15 integrate new and emerging technologies and  
16 communication platforms into the IPAWS  
17 framework.

18 (3) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—In conducting  
19 the study required under paragraph (1), the Comp-  
20 troller General shall consult with—

21 (A) the Secretary of Homeland Security;

22 (B) the Federal Communications Commis-  
23 sion;

24 (C) the National Telecommunications and  
25 Information Administration;

- 1 (D) the Secretary;
- 2 (E) Federal, State, Tribal, territorial, and
- 3 local emergency management officials;
- 4 (F) first responders;
- 5 (G) technology experts in resilience and ac-
- 6 cessibility;
- 7 (H) radio broadcasters;
- 8 (I) manufacturers of passenger motor vehi-
- 9 cles; and
- 10 (J) other relevant stakeholders, as deter-
- 11 mined by the Comptroller General.

12 (4) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

13 (A) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year

14 after the date of enactment of this Act, the

15 Comptroller General shall brief the appropriate

16 committees of Congress on the results of the

17 study required by paragraph (1), including rec-

18 ommendations for legislation and administrative

19 action as the Comptroller General determines

20 appropriate.

21 (B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days

22 after the date on which the Comptroller General

23 provides the briefing required under subpara-

24 graph (A), the Comptroller General shall sub-

25 mit to the appropriate committees of Congress

1 a report describing the results of the study re-  
2 quired under paragraph (1), including rec-  
3 ommendations for legislation and administrative  
4 action as the Comptroller General determines  
5 appropriate.

6 (g) REVIEW.—Not less frequently than once every 5  
7 years after the date on which the Secretary issues the rule  
8 required by subsection (a), the Secretary, in coordination  
9 with the Administrator and the Federal Communications  
10 Commission, shall submit to the appropriate committees  
11 of Congress a report that shall include an assessment of—

12 (1) the impacts of the rule issued under that  
13 subsection, including the impacts on public safety;  
14 and

15 (2) possible changes to IPAWS communication  
16 technologies that would enable resilient and acces-  
17 sible alerts to drivers and passengers of passenger  
18 motor vehicles.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles, and for other purposes.”.

