

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115
Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

April 9, 2018

Mr. John H. Madigan, Jr.
Vice President and Chief Public Policy Officer
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
440 First Street, N.W.; Suite 300
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Madigan:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology on Thursday, March 22, 2018, to testify at the hearing entitled "Legislative Hearing on Four Communications Bills."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Monday, April 23, 2018. Your responses should be mailed to Evan Viau, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed to Evan.Viau@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Marsha Blackburn
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

cc: The Honorable Michael F. Doyle, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn

1. As I mentioned in my opening statement, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in Tennessee, where over two times as many people die by suicide annually than by homicide. On average, one person dies by suicide every 8 hours in the state. That's simply devastating. It would be incredibly impactful if we could play even a small a part in saving lives simply by creating a dedicated 3-digit number. Can you talk more about how a suicide hotline will help?

The Honorable Adam Kinzinger

1. In recent months, I've had a number of meetings with community health centers in my district in Illinois. They tell me they're seeing a big increase in demand for mental health care and behavioral health services. It's safe to say that in many rural communities, there is an inadequate amount of health services, that is especially so with respect to mental health. Healthcare providers are trying to bridge the gaps in mental health care services. But addressing the lack of these services in rural America is a long-term challenge that will need to be confronted with a multi-pronged approach—including the use of technology and telemedicine.
 - a. Have you seen any evidence that an improved National Suicide Hotline will help rural populations?
 - b. How would this approach benefit districts like mine?