

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 2345
OFFERED BY MRS. BLACKBURN OF TENNESSEE**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Suicide Hot-
3 line Improvement Act of 2018”.

4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

5 In this Act—

6 (1) the term “Commission” means the Federal
7 Communications Commission;

8 (2) the term “covered dialing code” means a
9 simple, easy-to-remember, 3-digit dialing code; and

10 (3) the term “N11 dialing code” means an ab-
11 breviated dialing code consisting of 3 digits, of
12 which—

13 (A) the first digit may be any digit other
14 than “1” or “0”; and

15 (B) each of the last 2 digits is “1”.

16 SEC. 3. STUDIES AND REPORTS.

17 (a) PRIMARY STUDY.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission, in coordi-
2 nation with the Assistant Secretary for Mental
3 Health and Substance Use and the Secretary of Vet-
4 erans Affairs, shall conduct a study that—

5 (A) examines the feasibility of designating
6 an N11 dialing code or other covered dialing
7 code to be used for a national suicide preven-
8 tion and mental health crisis hotline system;
9 and

10 (B) analyzes the effectiveness of the Na-
11 tional Suicide Prevention Lifeline as of the date
12 on which the study is initiated, including how
13 well the lifeline is working to address the needs
14 of veterans.

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—

16 (A) COMMISSION.—In conducting the
17 study under paragraph (1), the Commission
18 shall—

19 (i) consider—

20 (I) each of the N11 dialing codes,
21 including the codes that are used for
22 other purposes; and

23 (II) other covered dialing codes;

24 (ii) consult with the North American
25 Numbering Council; and

1 (iii) review the information provided
2 by the Assistant Secretary for Mental
3 Health and Substance Use and the Sec-
4 retary of Veterans Affairs under subpara-
5 graphs (B) and (C), respectively, of this
6 paragraph.

7 (B) SAMHSA STUDY AND REPORT TO AS-
8 SIST COMMISSION.—To assist the Commission
9 in conducting the study under paragraph (1),
10 the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and
11 Substance Use shall analyze and, not later than
12 180 days after the date of enactment of this
13 Act, report to the Commission on—

14 (i) the potential impact of the des-
15 ignation of an N11 dialing code, or other
16 covered dialing code, for a suicide preven-
17 tion and mental health crisis hotline sys-
18 tem on—

19 (I) suicide prevention;

20 (II) crisis services; and

21 (III) other suicide prevention and
22 mental health crisis hotlines, includ-
23 ing—

24 (aa) the National Suicide
25 Prevention Lifeline; and

1 (bb) the Veterans Crisis
2 Line; and

3 (ii) possible recommendations for im-
4 proving the National Suicide Prevention
5 Lifeline generally, which may include—

6 (I) increased public education
7 and awareness; and

8 (II) improved infrastructure and
9 operations.

10 (C) VA STUDY AND REPORT TO ASSIST
11 COMMISSION.—To assist the Commission in
12 conducting the study under paragraph (1), the
13 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall study and,
14 not later than 180 days after the date of enact-
15 ment of this Act, report to the Commission on
16 how well the National Suicide Prevention Life-
17 line and the Veterans Crisis Line, as in effect
18 on the date on which the study is initiated, is
19 working to address the needs of veterans.

20 (b) PRIMARY COMMISSION REPORT.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
22 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission,
23 in coordination with the Assistant Secretary for
24 Mental Health and Substance Use and the Secretary
25 of Veterans Affairs, shall submit a report on the

1 study conducted under subsection (a) that rec-
2 ommends whether a particular N11 dialing code or
3 other covered dialing code should be used for a na-
4 tional suicide prevention and mental health crisis
5 hotline system to—

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

8 (B) the Committee on Health, Education,
9 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

10 (C) the Committee on Energy and Com-
11 merce of the House of Representatives.

12 (2) ADDITIONAL CONTENTS.—If the report sub-
13 mitted by the Commission under paragraph (1) rec-
14 ommends that a dialing code should be used, the re-
15 port shall also—

16 (A) outline the logistics of designating
17 such a dialing code;

18 (B) estimate the costs associated with des-
19 ignating such a dialing code, including—

20 (i) the costs incurred by service pro-
21 viders, including—

22 (I) translation changes in the
23 network; and

24 (II) cell site analysis and re-
25 programming by wireless carriers; and

1 (ii) the costs incurred by States and
2 localities;

3 (C) provide recommendations for desig-
4 nating such a dialing code;

5 (D) provide a cost-benefit analysis com-
6 paring the recommended dialing code with the
7 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, as in ef-
8 fect on the date on which the report is sub-
9 mitted; and

10 (E) make other recommendations, as ap-
11 propriate, for improving the National Suicide
12 Prevention Lifeline generally, which may in-
13 clude—

14 (i) increased public education and
15 awareness; and

16 (ii) improved infrastructure and oper-
17 ations.

