

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

**TO H.R. 4194**

**OFFERED BY Mr. O'Halleran & Mr. Gianforte**

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 Designation Act of 2020”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) According to the American Foundation for  
7 Suicide Prevention, on average, there are 129 sui-  
8 cides per day in the United States.

9 (2) To prevent future suicides, it is critical to  
10 transition the cumbersome, existing 10-digit Na-  
11 tional Suicide Hotline to a universal, easy-to-remem-  
12 ber, 3-digit phone number and connect people in cri-  
13 sis with life-saving resources.

14 (3) It is essential that people in the United  
15 States have access to a 3-digit national suicide hot-  
16 line across all geographic locations.

1           (4) The designated suicide hotline number will  
2           need to be both familiar and recognizable to all peo-  
3           ple in the United States.

4 **SEC. 3. UNIVERSAL TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR NATIONAL**  
5                                   **SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH**  
6                                   **CRISIS HOTLINE SYSTEM.**

7           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 251(e) of the Commu-  
8           nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 251(e)) is amended by  
9           adding at the end the following:

10                           “(4) **UNIVERSAL TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR NA-**  
11                           **TIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH**  
12                           **CRISIS HOTLINE SYSTEM.**—9–8–8 is designated as  
13                           the universal telephone number within the United  
14                           States for the purpose of the national suicide pre-  
15                           vention and mental health crisis hotline system oper-  
16                           ating through the National Suicide Prevention Life-  
17                           line maintained by the Assistant Secretary for Men-  
18                           tal Health and Substance Use under section 520E–  
19                           3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
20                           290bb–36c) and through the Veterans Crisis Line  
21                           maintained by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
22                           under section 1720F(h) of title 38, United States  
23                           Code.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
2 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 1 year  
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (c) REQUIRED REPORT.—Not later than 180 days  
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant  
6 Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use and the  
7 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly submit a report  
8 that details the resources necessary to make the use of  
9 9–8–8, as designated under paragraph (4) of section  
10 251(e) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.  
11 251(e)), as added by subsection (a) of this section, oper-  
12 ational and effective across the United States to—

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

15 (2) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
16 Senate;

17 (3) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of  
18 the House of Representatives; and

19 (4) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
20 House of Representatives.

21 **SEC. 4. STATE AUTHORITY OVER FEES.**

22 (a) AUTHORITY.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act, any  
24 amendment made by this Act, the Communications  
25 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.), or any Com-

1 mission regulation or order may prevent the imposi-  
2 tion and collection of a fee or charge applicable to  
3 a commercial mobile service or an IP-enabled voice  
4 service specifically designated by a State, a political  
5 subdivision of a State, an Indian Tribe, or village or  
6 regional corporation serving a region established  
7 pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement  
8 Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) for the support or im-  
9 plementation of 9–8–8 services, if the fee or charge  
10 is held in a sequestered account to be obligated or  
11 expended only in support of 9–8–8 services, or en-  
12 hancements of such services, as specified in the pro-  
13 vision of State or local law adopting the fee or  
14 charge.

15 (2) **LIMIT ON FEE OR CHARGE.**—For each class  
16 of subscribers to IP-enabled voice services, the fee or  
17 charge may not exceed the amount of any such fee  
18 or charge applicable to the same class of subscribers  
19 to telecommunications services.

20 (b) **FEE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT.**—To ensure effi-  
21 ciency, transparency, and accountability in the collection  
22 and expenditure of a fee or charge for the support or im-  
23 plementation of 9–8–8 services, not later than 2 years  
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually  
25 thereafter, the Commission shall submit to the Commit-

tees on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and Appropriations of the Senate and the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report that—

(1) details the status in each State of the collection and distribution of such fees or charges, including a detailed report about how those fees or charges are being used to support 9–8–8 services; and

(2) includes findings on the amount of revenues obligated or expended by each State or political subdivision thereof for any purpose other than the purpose for which any such fees or charges are specified.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.—The term “commercial mobile service” has the meaning given that term under section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

(2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Communications Commission.

(3) IP-ENABLED VOICE SERVICE.—The term “IP-enabled voice service” shall include—

(A) an interconnected VoIP service, as defined in section 9.3 of the title 47 of the Code

1 of Federal Regulations, or any successor there-  
2 to; and

3 (B) a one-way interconnected VoIP service.

4 (4) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-  
5 ing given that term in section 7 of the Wireless  
6 Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47  
7 U.S.C. 615b).

8 (5) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE.—The  
9 term “telecommunications service” has the meaning  
10 given that term in section 3 of the Communications  
11 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

12 **SEC. 5. LOCATION IDENTIFICATION REPORT.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
14 date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Commu-  
15 nications Commission shall submit to the appropriate com-  
16 mittees a report that examines the feasibility and cost of  
17 including an automatic dispatchable location that would  
18 be conveyed with a 9–8–8 call, regardless of the techno-  
19 logical platform used and including with calls from multi-  
20 line telephone systems (as defined in section 6502 of the  
21 Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012  
22 (47 U.S.C. 1471)).

23 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES.—The term  
25 “appropriate committees” means the following:

1 (A) The Committee on Commerce, Science,  
2 and Transportation of the Senate.

3 (B) The Committee on Health, Education,  
4 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

5 (C) The Committee on Energy and Com-  
6 merce of the House of Representatives.

7 (2) DISPATCHABLE LOCATION.—The term  
8 “dispatchable location” means the street address of  
9 the calling party and additional information such as  
10 room number, floor number, or similar information  
11 necessary to adequately identify the location of the  
12 calling party.

13 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON CERTAIN TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

14 (a) SENSE OF THE <sup>Congress</sup> [REDACTED]—It is the sense of the  
15 Congress that—

16 (1) youth who are lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
17 transgender, or queer (referred to in this section as  
18 “LGBTQ”) are more than 4 times more likely to  
19 contemplate suicide than their peers;

20 (2) 1 in 5 LGBTQ youth and more than 1 in  
21 3 transgender youth report attempting suicide this  
22 past year; and

23 (3) the Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
24 Services Administration must be equipped to provide  
25 specialized resources to this at-risk community.

1 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
2 of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary for  
3 Mental Health and Substance Use shall submit to the  
4 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of  
5 the Senate, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,  
6 and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Energy  
7 and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report  
8 that—

9 (1) details a strategy, to be developed in con-  
10 sultation with 1 or more organizations with expertise  
11 in suicide of LGBTQ youth as well as 1 or more or-  
12 ganizations with expertise in suicide of other high  
13 risk populations, for the Substance Abuse and Men-  
14 tal Health Services Administration to offer, support,  
15 or provide technical assistance to training programs  
16 for National Suicide Prevention Lifeline counselors  
17 to increase competency in serving LGBTQ youth  
18 and other high risk populations; and

19 (2) includes recommendations regarding—

20 (A) the facilitation of access to services  
21 that are provided to specially trained staff and  
22 partner organizations for LGBTQ individuals  
23 and other high risk populations; and

24 (B) a strategy for optimally implementing  
25 an Integrated Voice Response, or other equally



1 effective mechanism, to allow National Suicide  
2 Prevention Lifeline callers who are LGBTQ  
3 youth or members of other high risk popu-  
4 lations to access specialized services.

