

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5918

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 14, 2020

Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. HUFFMAN) 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.

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. REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF DISASTER IN-**
4 **FORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM; IMPROVE-**
5 **MENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORTING.**

6 (a) REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF DISASTER IN-
7 FORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM.—

8 (1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 weeks
2 after the deactivation of the Disaster Informa-
3 tion Reporting System with respect to an event
4 for which the System was activated, the Com-
5 mission shall issue a preliminary report on, with
6 respect to such event—

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

9 (I) broadband internet access
10 service;

11 (II) interconnected VoIP service;

12 and

13 (III) commercial mobile service;

14 (ii) the approximate number of users
15 affected by an outage described in clause
16 (i);

17 (iii) the number and duration of any
18 outages at public safety answering points
19 that prevent public safety answering points
20 from receiving emergency calls and routing
21 such calls to emergency service personnel;

22 (iv) initial recovery efforts related to
23 communications networks; and

24 (v) any additional information deter-
25 mined appropriate by the Commission.

1 (2) PUBLIC FIELD HEARINGS.—

2 (A) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 4
3 months after the deactivation of the Disaster
4 Information Reporting System with respect to
5 an event for which the System was activated,
6 the Commission shall hold at least one public
7 field hearing in communities affected by such
8 event.

9 (B) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS
10 IN HEARINGS.—For each public field hearing
11 held under subparagraph (A), the Commission
12 shall consider including—

13 (i) representatives of State govern-
14 ment, local government, or Indian Tribal
15 governments in areas affected by such
16 event;

17 (ii) residents of the areas affected by
18 such event, or consumer advocates;

19 (iii) providers of broadband internet
20 access service;

21 (iv) faculty of institutions of higher
22 education;

23 (v) representatives of other Federal
24 agencies;

25 (vi) electric utility providers;

1 (vii) telecommunications infrastruc-
2 ture companies; and

3 (viii) first responders, emergency
4 managers, or 9–1–1 directors in areas af-
5 fected by such event.

6 (3) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 8 months
7 after the deactivation of the Disaster Information
8 Reporting System with respect to an event for which
9 the System was activated, the Commission shall
10 issue a final report that includes, with respect to
11 such event—

12 (A) the information described under para-
13 graph (1)(A); and

14 (B) any recommendations of the Commis-
15 sion on how to improve the resiliency of af-
16 fected communications or networks recovery ef-
17 forts.

18 (4) DEVELOPMENT OF REPORTS.—In devel-
19 oping a report required under this subsection, the
20 Commission shall consider information collected
21 through the Disaster Information Reporting System
22 and a public hearing described in paragraph (2) with
23 respect to the applicable event.

24 (5) PUBLICATION.—The Commission shall pub-
25 lish each report issued under this subsection on the

1 website of the Commission upon the issuance of such
2 report.

3 (b) IMPROVEMENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORT-
4 ING.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act, the Commission shall initiate a rule-
6 making to—

7 (1) determine the circumstances under which to
8 require providers of commercial mobile service to
9 provide alerts to public safety answering points re-
10 garding communications service disruptions of the
11 commercial mobile service within the assigned terri-
12 tories of such public safety answering points that
13 prevent—

14 (A) the origination of 9–1–1 calls;

15 (B) the delivery of Automatic Location In-
16 formation; or

17 (C) Automatic Number Identification; and

18 (2) require such alerts to be made.

19 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) AUTOMATIC LOCATION INFORMATION;

21 AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION.—The terms

22 “Automatic Location Information” and “Automatic

23 Number Identification” have the meaning given

24 those terms in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Fed-

25 eral Regulations, or any successor regulation.

1 (2) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—

2 The term “broadband internet access service” has
3 the meaning given such term in section 8.1(b) of
4 title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any suc-
5 cessor regulation.

6 (3) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.—The term
7 “commercial mobile service” has the meaning given
8 such term in section 332(d) of the Communications
9 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

10 (4) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
11 means the Federal Communications Commission.

12 (5) INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOV-
13 ERNMENT.—The terms “Indian Tribal government”
14 and “Indian Tribal Government” have the meaning
15 given those terms in section 102 of the Robert T.
16 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance
17 Act (42 U.S.C. 5121).

18 (6) INTERCONNECTED VOIP SERVICE.—The
19 term “interconnected VoIP service” has the meaning
20 given such term in section 3 of the Communications
21 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

22 (7) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.—The
23 term “public safety answering point” has the mean-
24 ing given such term in section 222 of the Commu-
25 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222).

1 (8) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
2 ing given such term in section 3 of the Communica-
3 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

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