

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 725

AN ACT

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, to categorize public safety telecommunications as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification system, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing First Re-
 5 sponse Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF DISASTER INFOR-**
 7 **MATION REPORTING SYSTEM; IMPROVE-**
 8 **MENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORTING.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) AUTOMATIC LOCATION INFORMATION;
 11 AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION.—The terms
 12 “Automatic Location Information” and “Automatic
 13 Number Identification” have the meanings given
 14 those terms in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Fed-
 15 eral Regulations, or any successor regulation.

16 (2) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—
 17 The term “broadband internet access service” has
 18 the meaning given the term in section 8.1(b) of title
 19 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor
 20 regulation.

21 (3) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.—The term
 22 “commercial mobile service” has the meaning given
 23 the term in section 332(d) of the Communications
 24 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

1 (4) COMMERCIAL MOBILE DATA SERVICE.—The
 2 term “commercial mobile data service” has the
 3 meaning given the term in section 6001 of the Mid-
 4 dle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012
 5 (47 U.S.C. 1401).

6 (5) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
 7 means the Federal Communications Commission.

8 (6) INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOV-
 9 ERNMENT.—The terms “Indian tribal government”
 10 and “local government” have the meanings given
 11 those terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford
 12 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
 13 U.S.C. 5122).

14 (7) INTERCONNECTED VOIP SERVICE.—The
 15 term “interconnected VoIP service” has the meaning
 16 given that term in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of
 17 Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

18 (8) MULTI-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM.—The
 19 term “multi-line telephone system” has the meaning
 20 given the term in section 721(f) of the Communica-
 21 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 623(f)).

22 (9) OUTAGE.—The term “outage” has the
 23 meaning given the term in section 4.5 of title 47,
 24 Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regu-
 25 lation.

1 (10) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.—The
 2 term “public safety answering point” has the mean-
 3 ing given the term in section 222(h) of the Commu-
 4 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222(h)).

5 (11) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
 6 ing given that term in section 3 of the Communica-
 7 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

8 (12) SYSTEM.—The term “System” means the
 9 Disaster Information Reporting System.

10 (b) REPORTS AFTER ACTIVATION OF THE DISASTER
 11 INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM.—

12 (1) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—

13 (A) REQUIREMENT.—Each year, the Com-
 14 mission shall hold not less than 1 public hear-
 15 ing relating to all events during the preceding
 16 1-year period for which the System was acti-
 17 vated for not less than 7 days.

18 (B) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS
 19 IN PUBLIC HEARINGS.—For each public hearing
 20 held under subparagraph (A), the Commission
 21 shall consider including—

22 (i) representatives of State govern-
 23 ment, local government, or Indian tribal
 24 governments in areas affected by such
 25 event;

- 1 (ii) residents of the areas affected by
- 2 such event, or consumer advocates;
- 3 (iii) providers of communications serv-
- 4 ices affected by such event;
- 5 (iv) faculty of institutions of higher
- 6 education;
- 7 (v) representatives of other Federal
- 8 agencies;
- 9 (vi) electric utility providers;
- 10 (vii) communications infrastructure
- 11 companies; and
- 12 (viii) first responders, emergency
- 13 managers, and 911 directors in areas af-
- 14 fected by such event.

15 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after
16 the public hearing under paragraph (1) occurs, the
17 Commission shall issue a report that includes, with
18 respect to such event and to the extent known with-
19 out requiring the collection of additional informa-
20 tion—

- 21 (A) the number and duration of any out-
- 22 ages of—
- 23 (i) broadband internet access service;
- 24 (ii) interconnected VoIP service;
- 25 (iii) commercial mobile service; and

1 (iv) commercial mobile data service;

2 (B) the approximate number of users and
3 the amount of communications infrastructure
4 potentially affected by an outage described in
5 subparagraph (A);

6 (C) the number and duration of any out-
7 ages that prevent public safety answering points
8 from receiving caller location or number infor-
9 mation or receiving emergency calls and routing
10 such calls to emergency service personnel; and

11 (D) any recommendations of the Commis-
12 sion on how to improve the resiliency of af-
13 fected communications or networks recovery ef-
14 forts.

15 (3) DEVELOPMENT OF REPORTS.—In devel-
16 oping a report required under paragraph (2), the
17 Commission shall consider information collected by
18 the Commission, including information collected by
19 the Commission through the System, and any public
20 hearing described in paragraph (1) with respect to
21 the applicable event.

22 (4) PUBLICATION.—The Commission shall pub-
23 lish each report, excluding information that is other-
24 wise exempt from public disclosure under the rules
25 of the Commission or was submitted to the Commis-

1 sion with a proper request for confidential treatment
2 as described in section 0.459 of title 47, Code of
3 Federal Regulations, issued under this subsection on
4 the website of the Commission upon the issuance of
5 such report. The Commission shall not publicly dis-
6 close company-specific information.

7 (c) IMPROVEMENTS TO NETWORK OUTAGE REPORT-
8 ING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
9 of this Act, the Commission shall investigate and publish
10 a report on—

11 (1) the value to public safety agencies of origi-
12 nating service providers including visual information
13 to improve situational awareness about outages in
14 the notifications provided to public safety answering
15 points, as required by rules issued by the Commis-
16 sion;

17 (2) the volume and nature of 911 outages that
18 may go unreported under the outage notification
19 thresholds of the Commission;

20 (3) the balance between the value described in
21 paragraph (1) to public safety agencies and the bur-
22 den and practicality for originating service providers
23 of including visual information in outage notifica-
24 tions as described in that paragraph; and

1 (4) recommended changes to rules issued by the
2 Commission to address paragraphs (1) and (2).

3 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
4 shall be construed to provide the Commission or any other
5 person authority over any provider of broadband internet
6 access service beyond what is specifically authorized under
7 this Act.

8 **SEC. 3. REPORTING OF PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICA-**
9 **TORS AS PROTECTIVE SERVICE OCCUPA-**
10 **TIONS.**

11 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

12 (1) Public safety telecommunicators play a crit-
13 ical role in emergency response, providing medical
14 instruction, gathering lifesaving information, and
15 protecting civilians and first responders.

16 (2) The Standard Occupational Classification
17 system is designed and maintained solely for statis-
18 tical purposes, and is used by Federal statistical
19 agencies to classify workers and jobs into occupa-
20 tional categories for the purpose of collecting, calcu-
21 lating, analyzing, or disseminating data.

22 (3) Occupations in the Standard Occupational
23 Classification are classified based on work performed
24 and, in some cases, on the skills, education, or train-
25 ing needed to perform the work.

1 (4) Classifying public safety telecommunicators
 2 as a protective service occupation would correct an
 3 inaccurate representation in the Standard Occupa-
 4 tional Classification, recognize these professionals
 5 for the lifesaving work they perform, and better
 6 align the Standard Occupational Classification with
 7 related classification systems.

8 (b) STANDARD OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYS-
 9 TEM.—The Director of the Office of Management and
 10 Budget shall, not later than 30 days after the date of en-
 11 actment of this Act, categorize public safety telecommu-
 12 nicators as a protective service occupation under the
 13 Standard Occupational Classification system.

14 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KARI'S LAW**
 15 **ACT OF 2017.**

16 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
 17 of this Act, the Commission shall publish a report regard-
 18 ing the enforcement by the Commission of section 721 of
 19 the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 623), which
 20 shall include—

- 21 (1) a summary of the extent to which multi-line
- 22 telephone system manufacturers and vendors have
- 23 complied with that section;
- 24 (2) potential difficulties and obstacles in com-
- 25 plying with that section;

1 (3) recommendations to the Commission, if nec-
2 essary, on ways to improve the policies of the Com-
3 mission to better enforce that section; and

4 (4) recommendations to Congress, if necessary,
5 on further legislation that could mitigate problems
6 like those that are addressed by that section.

Passed the Senate September 10, 2025.

Attest:

Secretary.

119TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

S. 725

AN ACT

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, to categorize public safety telecommunications as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification system, and for other purposes.