

S 118

Emergency Warning Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Jan 9, 2003

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Jan 9, 2003)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/118

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Edwards, John [D-NC]

Party: Democratic • State: NC • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D · SC		Jan 9, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 9, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 2537	Identical bill	Jul 1, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.

Summary (as of Jan 9, 2003)

Emergency Warning Act of 2003 - Directs the Secretaries of Commerce and Homeland Security to establish comprehensive national standards and systems for providing effective public warnings.

Directs the Secretary of Commerce to: (1) develop and implement benchmarks assessing current all-hazard warning capabilities; (2) conduct research and pilot programs to determine and improve the effectiveness of such warnings; (3) develop specifications for a national backbone for collecting and routing all-hazard warnings; (4) use the full range of communications technologies to provide warnings; (5) provide public warnings through automatic alert televisions and radios; and (6) educate the public about such warnings.

Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to: (1) develop and recommend standards and guidelines for universal all-hazard terminology and protocols, and (2) issue warnings related to acts of terrorism and other public safety threats via a public warning system.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 9, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 9, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S153-154)
- **Jan 9, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.