

S 121

National AMBER Alert Network Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jan 9, 2003

Current Status: Motion to Discharge Committee filed by Mr. Frost. Petition No: 108-1. (<[**Latest Action:** Motion to Discharge Committee filed by Mr. Frost. Petition No: 108-1. \(<](http://clerk.house.g</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/121>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]

Party: Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Allard, Wayne [R-CO]	R · CO		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Bennett, Robert F. [R-UT]	R · UT		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Biden, Joseph R., Jr. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Ensign, John [R-NV]	R · NV		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Fitzgerald, Peter [R-IL]	R · IL		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Lugar, Richard G. [R-IN]	R · IN		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Miller, Zell [D-GA]	D · GA		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Voinovich, George V. [R-OH]	R · OH		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 9, 2003
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 15, 2003
Sen. Campbell, Ben Nighthorse [R-CO]	R · CO		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. DeWine, Mike [R-OH]	R · OH		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Domenici, Pete V. [R-NM]	R · NM		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]	R · PA		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]	R · OR		Jan 21, 2003
Sen. Talent, Jim [R-MO]	R · MO		Jan 21, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Jan 21, 2003
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 6, 2003
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 27, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 362	Related bill	Mar 6, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
108 HR 412	Identical bill	Mar 6, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Summary (as of Jan 21, 2003)

National AMBER Alert Network Act of 2003 - (Sec. 2) Requires the Attorney General to assign an AMBER Alert Coordinator of the Department of Justice to act as the national coordinator of the AMBER Alert communications network regarding abducted children. Requires the coordinator to: (1) seek to eliminate gaps in the network; (2) work with States to encourage the development of additional network elements and to ensure regional coordination; and (3) act as the nationwide point of contact for network development and for regional coordination of alerts on abducted children through the network. Directs the Coordinator to notify and consult with the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning each child abduction for which an AMBER Alert is issued.

(Sec. 3) Directs the Coordinator to establish minimum standards for the issuance of alerts and for the extent of their dissemination (limited to the geographic areas most likely to facilitate the recovery of the abducted child). Provides that the standards shall be adoptable on a voluntary basis only.

Requires the Coordinator to cooperate with the Secretary of Transportation and the Federal Communications Commission in carrying out such activities.

(Sec. 4) Requires the Secretary of Transportation to provide grants to States for the development or enhancement of notification or communications systems along highways for alerts and other information for the recovery of abducted children. Includes among permissible activities the development or enhancement of electronic message boards, and the placement of additional signage, along highways. Limits the Federal cost share to 50 percent. Directs the Secretary to ensure grant distribution on an equitable basis throughout the various regions of the United States. Authorizes appropriations.

(Sec. 5) Directs the Attorney General to provide grants to States for the development or enhancement of programs and activities for the support of AMBER Alert communications plans, which may include the development and implementation of: (1) education and training programs and associated materials; and (2) law enforcement programs and associated equipment. Limits the Federal cost share to 50 percent. Directs the Secretary to ensure grant distribution on an equitable basis throughout the various regions of the United States. Authorizes appropriations.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 2, 2003:** Motion to Discharge Committee filed by Mr. Frost. Petition No: 108-1. (Discharge petition text with signatures.)
- **Mar 6, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Jan 27, 2003:** Received in the House.
- **Jan 27, 2003:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jan 27, 2003:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jan 27, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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- **Jan 21, 2003:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S1234-1237)
- **Jan 21, 2003:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S1234-1237)
- **Jan 21, 2003:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 92 - 0. Record Vote Number: 9.(text: CR S1237)
- **Jan 21, 2003:** Passed Senate without amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 92 - 0. Record Vote Number: 9. (text: CR S1237)
- **Jan 9, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 9, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S155-156)
- **Jan 9, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.