

S 2693

READI Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Oct 24, 2019

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Sep 29, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2693>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** HI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Oct 24, 2019
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Dec 17, 2019
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Aug 6, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 21, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 6096	Related bill	Nov 18, 2020: Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 596.
116 S 4049	Related bill	Aug 7, 2020: Held at the desk.
116 HR 4856	Identical bill	Feb 27, 2020: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Reliable Emergency Alert Distribution Improvement Act of 2020 or READI Act

This bill modifies how citizens receive emergency alerts through wireless and broadcast emergency alert systems.

Specifically, the bill includes emergency alerts from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a type of alert that mobile subscribers may not block from their devices (currently, only alerts from the President may not be blocked).

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) must adopt regulations that encourage states to establish a State Emergency Communications Commission (SECC) and require each SECC to meet at least annually to review and update its Emergency Alert System Plan. The FCC must approve or disapprove the updated plan.

The FCC shall also (1) establish a system to receive from FEMA or state, tribal, or local governments reports of false alerts under the Emergency Alert System (EAS) or the Wireless EAS to record such false alerts and examine their causes; (2) modify the EAS to provide for repeating messages while an alert remains pending; and (3) examine the feasibility of updating the EAS to enable or improve alerts provided through the internet, including through audio and video streaming services.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 29, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 29, 2020:** Received in the House.
- **Sep 29, 2020:** Held at the desk.
- **Sep 24, 2020:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S5881-5882)
- **Sep 24, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S5881-5882)
- **Sep 24, 2020:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S5881-5882)
- **Jul 21, 2020:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Wicker without amendment. With written report No. 116-240.
- **Jul 21, 2020:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 492.
- **Nov 13, 2019:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Oct 24, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 24, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.