

S 3556

Enhancing First Response Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Dec 18, 2023

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. (Dec 18, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3556>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		Dec 18, 2023
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Dec 18, 2023
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Dec 18, 2023
Sen. Budd, Ted [R-NC]	R · NC		Jan 24, 2024
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Jan 24, 2024
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Mar 19, 2024
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 19, 2024
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Apr 11, 2024
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Apr 18, 2024
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		Apr 18, 2024
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Apr 18, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 18, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 7043	Related bill	Jan 19, 2024: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Enhancing First Response Act

This bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to report on certain activations of the Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS). DIRS is a reporting system, activated during severe weather and other events impacting communications service, through which communications providers report outages and other degradations to service.

If the system was activated for at least seven days, the FCC must issue a preliminary report that includes information about the number, duration, and nature of all associated outages. The FCC must also hold at least one public field hearing in the area affected by the event, and it must issue a final report that includes recommendations on how to improve the resiliency of affected networks.

Separately, the FCC must publish a general report on (1) the volume and nature of 9-1-1 outages that are not required to be reported under current outage notification rules, and (2) the value to public safety agencies of the inclusion of visual information in outage notifications from communications providers.

The bill also requires the Office of Management and Budget, by 30 days after the bill's enactment, to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification System.

Finally, the Office of the Inspector General of the FCC is directed to publish a report on the implementation of Kari's Law, which requires multiline telephone systems to be preconfigured to allow users to dial 9-1-1 directly from any phone without dialing any additional code or prefix.

Actions Timeline

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