

9-1-1 Advisory Board Meeting- State/Federal Legislative  
Update 8-17-2022

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**AB 988 (Bauer-Kahan D) Mental health: 988 crisis hotline.**

**Status:** 8/11/2022-From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 5. Noes 0.) (August 11). Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

**Summary:**

Current federal law, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act, designates the 3-digit telephone number "988" as the universal number within the United States for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system operating through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline maintained by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Abuse and the Veterans Crisis Line maintained by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

**This bill** would enact the Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act. The bill would require the Office of Emergency Services to ensure, no later than July 16, 2022, that designated 988 centers utilize technology that allows for transfers between 988 centers as well as between 988 centers and 911 public safety answering points. The bill would require, no later than 90 days after passage of the act, the office to appoint a 988 crisis hotline system director, among other things. The bill would require, no later than July 1, 2024, the office to ensure interoperability between and across crisis and emergency response systems used throughout the state, as described. The bill would require the office to consult with specified entities on any technology requirements for 988 centers.

**AB 2906 (Patterson R) Telecommunications: automatic dialing-announcing devices: pupil health and safety exemption.**

**Status:** 6/21/2022-Signed by Governor, Chapter #36.

**Summary:**

Current law authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to control and regulate the use of automatic dialing-announcing devices to a telephone line and specifies the hours during which the devices may not be operated. Current law exempts from that control and regulation certain entities that use an automatic dialing-announcing device under various situations, including the contacting of parents or guardians of pupils by schools regarding attendance and the placing of calls by law enforcement agencies, fire protection agencies, and public health agencies for specified purposes relating to public safety and emergencies.

**This bill** exempts from that control and regulation the use of an automatic dialing-announcing device for purposes of a school contacting parents or guardians of pupils regarding the health or safety of pupils.

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**SB 857 (Hueso D) Telecommunications: universal service programs.**

**Summary:**

Current law establishes the state's 6 universal service funds in the State Treasury, including the California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee Fund and the California High-Cost Fund-B Administrative Committee Fund, and provides that moneys in each of the state's universal service funds are the proceeds of rates and are held in trust for the benefit of ratepayers and to compensate telephone corporations for their costs of providing universal service. Moneys in the funds may only be expended to accomplish specified telecommunications universal service programs, upon appropriation in the annual Budget Act or upon supplemental appropriation. Current law, until January 1, 2023, requires the Public Utilities Commission to develop, implement, and maintain a suitable program to establish a fair and equitable local rate structure aided by universal service rate support to small independent telephone corporations that serve rural areas and are subject to rate-of-return regulation by the commission (the CHCF-A program). Current law, until January 1, 2023, requires the commission to develop, implement, and maintain a suitable, competitively neutral, and broad-based program to establish a fair and equitable local rate support structure aided by universal service rate support to telephone corporations serving areas where the cost of providing services exceeds rates charged by providers, as determined by the commission (the CHCF-B program).

**This bill** would extend the CHCF-A program and CHCF-B program requirements to January 1, 2028.

**Status:** 8/11/2022-From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 16. Noes 0.) (August 11).

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117<sup>th</sup> Congress – Federal Telecommunications Bills

**HR 1250      Emergency Reporting Act (Rep. Matsui, Doris)**

This bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to report on certain activations of the Disaster Information Reporting System (the system through which communications providers report their operational status during times of crisis) and to adopt specified rules related to network outage reporting.

If the system was activated for at least seven days, the FCC must issue a preliminary a report that includes (1) the number and duration of any service outages, (2) the approximate number of users or the amount of infrastructure potentially affected by a service outage, and (3) the number and duration of any outages at public safety answering points (PSAPs) that prevent the PSAPs from receiving and routing emergency calls to emergency service personnel. 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 communications or networks recovery efforts.

The FCC must also determine the circumstances under which it shall require certain service providers to notify a PSAP of a communications service disruption that prevents the origination of 9–1–1 calls or the delivery of information that allows the PSAP to identify the number of or locate a 9–1–1 caller. Further, the FCC must require this notification to be made and specify the appropriate timing of the notification.

*Location:    Senate - 07/21/2021 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.*

**HR 1848      (Rep. Pallone)**

This bill would rebuild and modernize the Nation's infrastructure to expand access to broadband and **Next Generation 9-1-1**, rehabilitate drinking water infrastructure, modernize the electric grid and energy supply infrastructure, redevelop brownfields, strengthen health care infrastructure, create jobs, and protect public health and the environment, and for other purposes.

*Location - House - 01/20/2022 Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States*

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**HR 1859 (Rep. Smith, Adam)**

This bill would authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, to award grants to States, territories, political subdivisions of States and territories, Tribal governments, and consortia of Tribal governments to establish an unarmed 911 response program, and for other purposes.

*Location: House – 03/12/2021 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health*

**S 466 Kelsey Smith Act (Sen. Moran)**

This bill requires a mobile or internet voice service provider to disclose the location information of a device pursuant to certain requests.

Specifically, a provider must disclose this information at the request of an investigative or law enforcement officer (or public safety employee or agent on behalf of such officer) if the officer asserts (1) that the device was used to place a 911 call, or (2) reasonable suspicion that the device is in the possession of an individual who is in an emergency situation.

*Location: House -- 02/25/2021 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation*

**S 1175 911 SAVES Act (Sen. Burr)**

To categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification System.

*Location: Senate -- 04/15/2021 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Introduced.*