

# Union Calendar No. 646

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 2345

[Report No. 115–836]

To require the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 3, 2017

Mr. STEWART (for himself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

JULY 18, 2018

Additional sponsors: Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. O'ROURKE, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. KATKO, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. KILMER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. MESSER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BEYER, Mr. JONES, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. TONKO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. BACON, Mr. COOPER, Mr. BRAT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. FLORES, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. COLE, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BABIN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CURTIS, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. OLSON, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. LANCE,

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. ROSS, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CORREA, Mr. POSEY, Mr. GRIFFITH, Ms. DELBENE, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. EMMER, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida

JULY 18, 2018

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 3, 2017]

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## A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        *This Act may be cited as the “National Suicide Hot-*  
5 *line Improvement Act of 2018”.*

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7        *In this Act—*

8            (1) *the term “Commission” means the Federal*  
9 *Communications Commission;*

10           (2) *the term “covered dialing code” means a sim-*  
11 *ple, easy-to-remember, 3-digit dialing code; and*

12           (3) *the term “N11 dialing code” means an abbre-*  
13 *viated dialing code consisting of 3 digits, of which—*

14                (A) *the first digit may be any digit other*  
15 *than “1” or “0”; and*

16                (B) *each of the last 2 digits is “1”.*

17 **SEC. 3. STUDIES AND REPORTS.**

18        (a) *PRIMARY STUDY.—*

19            (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Commission, in coordina-*  
20 *tion with the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health*  
21 *and Substance Use and the Secretary of Veterans Af-*  
22 *airs, shall conduct a study that—*

23                (A) *examines the feasibility of designating*  
24 *an N11 dialing code or other covered dialing*

1           *code to be used for a national suicide prevention*  
2           *and mental health crisis hotline system; and*

3           *(B) analyzes the effectiveness of the Na-*  
4           *tional Suicide Prevention Lifeline as of the date*  
5           *on which the study is initiated, including how*  
6           *well the lifeline is working to address the needs*  
7           *of veterans.*

8           (2) *REQUIREMENTS.*—

9           (A) *COMMISSION.*—*In conducting the study*  
10           *under paragraph (1), the Commission shall—*

11                   (i) *consider—*

12                           (I) *each of the N11 dialing codes,*  
13                           *including the codes that are used for*  
14                           *other purposes; and*

15                           (II) *other covered dialing codes;*

16                           (ii) *consult with the North American*  
17                           *Numbering Council; and*

18                           (iii) *review the information provided*  
19                           *by the Assistant Secretary for Mental*  
20                           *Health and Substance Use and the Sec-*  
21                           *retary of Veterans Affairs under subpara-*  
22                           *graphs (B) and (C), respectively, of this*  
23                           *paragraph.*

24           (B) *SAMHSA STUDY AND REPORT TO AS-*  
25           *SIST COMMISSION.*—*To assist the Commission in*

1           *conducting the study under paragraph (1), the*  
2           *Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Sub-*  
3           *stance Use shall analyze and, not later than 180*  
4           *days after the date of enactment of this Act, re-*  
5           *port to the Commission on—*

6                     *(i) the potential impact of the designa-*  
7                     *tion of an N11 dialing code, or other cov-*  
8                     *ered dialing code, for a suicide prevention*  
9                     *and mental health crisis hotline system*  
10                    *on—*

11                             *(I) suicide prevention;*

12                             *(II) crisis services; and*

13                             *(III) other suicide prevention and*  
14                             *mental health crisis hotlines, includ-*  
15                             *ing—*

16                                     *(aa) the National Suicide*  
17                                     *Prevention Lifeline; and*

18                                     *(bb) the Veterans Crisis Line;*

19                                     *and*

20                             *(ii) possible recommendations for im-*  
21                             *proving the National Suicide Prevention*  
22                             *Lifeline generally, which may include—*

23                                     *(I) increased public education and*  
24                                     *awareness; and*

1                                    (II) *improved infrastructure and*  
2                                    *operations.*

3                                    (C) *VA STUDY AND REPORT TO ASSIST COM-*  
4                                    *MISSION.—To assist the Commission in con-*  
5                                    *ducting the study under paragraph (1), the Sec-*  
6                                    *retary of Veterans Affairs shall study and, not*  
7                                    *later than 180 days after the date of enactment*  
8                                    *of this Act, report to the Commission on how*  
9                                    *well the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline*  
10                                    *and the Veterans Crisis Line, as in effect on the*  
11                                    *date on which the study is initiated, is working*  
12                                    *to address the needs of veterans.*

13                                    (b) *PRIMARY COMMISSION REPORT.—*

14                                    (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after*  
15                                    *the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission, in*  
16                                    *coordination with the Assistant Secretary for Mental*  
17                                    *Health and Substance Use and the Secretary of Vet-*  
18                                    *erans Affairs, shall submit a report on the study con-*  
19                                    *ducted under subsection (a) that recommends whether*  
20                                    *a particular N11 dialing code or other covered dial-*  
21                                    *ing code should be used for a national suicide preven-*  
22                                    *tion and mental health crisis hotline system to—*

23                                    (A) *the Committee on Commerce, Science,*  
24                                    *and Transportation of the Senate;*

1           (B) *the Committee on Health, Education,*  
2           *Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;*

3           (C) *the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of*  
4           *the Senate;*

5           (D) *the Committee on Energy and Com-*  
6           *merce of the House of Representatives; and*

7           (E) *the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of*  
8           *the House of Representatives.*

9           (2) *ADDITIONAL CONTENTS.—If the report sub-*  
10          *mitted by the Commission under paragraph (1) rec-*  
11          *ommends that a dialing code should be used, the re-*  
12          *port shall also—*

13                 (A) *outline the logistics of designating such*  
14                 *a dialing code;*

15                 (B) *estimate the costs associated with desig-*  
16                 *nating such a dialing code, including—*

17                         (i) *the costs incurred by service pro-*  
18                         *viders, including—*

19                                 (I) *translation changes in the net-*  
20                                 *work; and*

21                                 (II) *cell site analysis and re-*  
22                                 *programming by wireless carriers; and*

23                                 (ii) *the costs incurred by States and lo-*  
24                                 *calities;*

1           (C) provide recommendations for desig-  
2           nating such a dialing code;

3           (D) provide a cost-benefit analysis com-  
4           paring the recommended dialing code with the  
5           National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, as in effect  
6           on the date on which the report is submitted;  
7           and

8           (E) make other recommendations, as appro-  
9           priate, for improving the National Suicide Pre-  
10          vention Lifeline generally, which may include—

11                 (i) increased public education and  
12                 awareness; and

13                 (ii) improved infrastructure and oper-  
14                 ations.





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