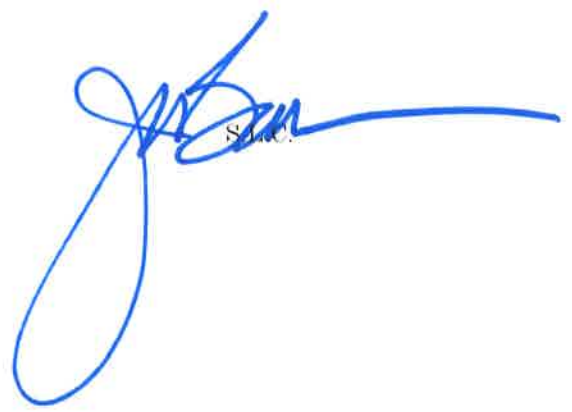




119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To establish a multi-stakeholder advisory committee tasked with providing detailed recommendations to address challenges to transmitting geolocation information with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. WARNOCK) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To establish a multi-stakeholder advisory committee tasked with providing detailed recommendations to address challenges to transmitting geolocation information with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and for other purposes.

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 “988 Lifeline Location
5 Improvement Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) 911 SYSTEM SERVICE PROVIDER.—The
4 term “911 system service provider” has the meaning
5 given the term “covered 911 service provider” in
6 section 9.19(a)(4) of title 47, Code of Federal Regu-
7 lations, or any successor regulation.

8 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
9 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
10 gress” means—

11 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
12 and Transportation of the Senate;

13 (B) the Committee on Health, Education,
14 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

15 (C) the Committee on Energy and Com-
16 merce of the House of Representatives.

17 (3) COMMITTEE.—The term “committee”
18 means the advisory committee established under sec-
19 tion 3.

20 (4) COMMUNITY BASED MENTAL HEALTH ORGA-
21 NIZATION.—The term “community based mental
22 health organization” means an organization that
23 serves individuals with mental health conditions and
24 the families of those individuals in a community set-
25 ting.

1 (5) DISPATCHABLE LOCATION.—The term
2 “dispatchable location” has the meaning given that
3 term in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Reg-
4 ulations, or any successor regulation.

5 (6) HANDSET MANUFACTURER.—The term
6 “handset manufacturer” means a manufacturer of
7 cellular phones.

8 (7) LOCAL CRISIS CENTER.—The term “local
9 crisis center” means a call center intended to receive
10 calls from the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and
11 the Veterans Crisis Line.

12 (8) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “local
13 government” means the government of any political
14 subdivision of a State.

15 (9) LOW POPULATION STATE.—The term “low
16 population State” means a State that has no urban-
17 ized areas with a population greater than 250,000,
18 as reported in the decennial census.

19 (10) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ORGANIZA-
20 TION.—The term “mental health services organiza-
21 tion” means an organization or association that rep-
22 resents providers of mental health crisis services or
23 crisis respite services.

24 (11) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.—The
25 term “public safety answering point” has the mean-

1 ing given that term in section 9.3 of title 47, Code
2 of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

3 (12) SMALL AND RURAL COMMUNITIES.—The
4 term “small and rural communities” means a
5 noncore area, a micropolitan area, or a small metro-
6 politan statistical area with a population of not more
7 than 250,000, as reported in the decennial census.

8 (13) STATE.—The term “State” means any of
9 the several States of the United States, the District
10 of Columbia, and any territory or possession of the
11 United States.

12 (14) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRO-
13 VIDER.—The term “telecommunications service pro-
14 vider” has the meaning given the term “service pro-
15 vider” in section 52.5(e) of title 47, Code of Federal
16 Regulations, or any successor regulation.

17 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE.**

18 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
19 the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Commu-
20 nications Commission, in coordination with the Secretary
21 of Health and Human Services, shall establish an advisory
22 committee to provide recommendations to address chal-
23 lenges to transmitting geolocation information, including
24 dispatchable location information, with calls to the 988
25 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

1 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

2 (1) COMPOSITION.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—The committee shall be
4 composed of 15 members, to be appointed in
5 accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C).

6 (B) APPOINTMENTS BY FEDERAL COMMU-
7 NICATIONS COMMISSION.—Of the 15 members
8 of the committee appointed under this para-
9 graph, the Federal Communications Commis-
10 sion shall appoint—

11 (i) 1 member from a telecommuni-
12 cations service provider or an organization
13 that represents telecommunications service
14 providers;

15 (ii) 1 member from a handset manu-
16 facturer or an organization that represents
17 handset manufacturers;

18 (iii) 1 member from a public safety
19 answering point or an organization that
20 represents public safety answering points;

21 (iv) 1 member from a 911 system
22 service provider or an organization that
23 represents 911 system service providers;

1 (v) 2 members from a State govern-
2 ment, with at least 1 member representing
3 a low population State; and

4 (vi) 2 members from a local govern-
5 ment, with at least 1 member representing
6 small and rural communities.

7 (C) APPOINTMENTS BY THE SECRETARY
8 OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.—Of the 15
9 members of the committee appointed under this
10 paragraph, the Secretary of Health and Human
11 Services shall appoint—

12 (i) 1 member from the 988 Suicide
13 and Crisis Lifeline;

14 (ii) 1 member from a local crisis cen-
15 ter or an organization that represents local
16 crisis centers;

17 (iii) 1 member from the Veterans Cri-
18 sis Line;

19 (iv) 1 member from the Substance
20 Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin-
21 istration;

22 (v) 1 member from a mental health
23 services organization;

24 (vi) 1 member from a community
25 based mental health organization; and

1 (vii) 1 member with experience pro-
2 viding services for people who are deaf or
3 hard of hearing or have hearing loss, such
4 as access to the 988 Suicide and Crisis
5 Lifeline through direct video calling and
6 video relay service.

7 (2) DATE.—The appointments of the members
8 of the committee shall be made not later than 30
9 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

10 (c) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the committee
12 shall be appointed for the life of the committee.

13 (2) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the committee—

14 (A) shall not affect the powers of the com-
15 mittee; and

16 (B) shall be filled in the same manner as
17 the original appointment.

18 (d) MEETINGS.—

19 (1) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days
20 after the date on which all members of the com-
21 mittee have been appointed, the committee shall hold
22 the first meeting of the committee.

23 (2) FREQUENCY.—The committee shall meet at
24 the call of the Chairperson.

1 (3) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of
2 the committee shall constitute a quorum, but a less-
3 er number of members may hold hearings.

4 (c) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The
5 committee shall select a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
6 from among the members of the committee.

7 **SEC. 4. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE.**

8 (a) STUDY.—The committee shall conduct a study
9 on—

10 (1) policy considerations regarding consumer
11 privacy and legal authority with respect to man-
12 dating transmission of geolocation information, in-
13 cluding dispatchable location information, with calls
14 to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline;

15 (2) technical implementation standards for tele-
16 communications service providers, 911 system serv-
17 ice providers, public safety answering points, and
18 local crisis centers; and

19 (3) potential recovery of costs or additional
20 funding requirements for telecommunications service
21 providers, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, the
22 Veterans Crisis Line, and local crisis centers.

23 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Based on the results of
24 the study conducted under subsection (a), the committee
25 shall develop recommendations on potential legislation

1 that would address challenges relating to the inclusion of
2 geolocation information, including dispatchable location
3 information, with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Life-
4 line.

5 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
6 of enactment of this Act, the committee shall submit to
7 appropriate committees of Congress and the Federal Com-
8 munications Commission a report that contains a detailed
9 statement of the findings and conclusions of the com-
10 mittee, together with the recommendations of the com-
11 mittee for such legislation and administrative actions as
12 the committee considers appropriate.

13 **SEC. 5. POWERS OF COMMITTEE.**

14 (a) HEARINGS.—The committee may hold such hear-
15 ings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testi-
16 mony, and receive such evidence as the committee con-
17 siders advisable to carry out this Act.

18 (b) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The committee may secure
20 directly from a Federal department or agency such
21 information as the committee considers necessary to
22 carry out this Act.

23 (2) FURNISHING INFORMATION.—On request of
24 the Chairperson of the committee, the head of the

1 department or agency shall furnish the information
2 to the committee.

3 (c) POSTAL SERVICES.—The committee may use the
4 United States mails in the same manner and under the
5 same conditions as other departments and agencies of the
6 Federal Government.

7 (d) GIFTS.—The committee may accept, use, and dis-
8 pose of gifts or donations of services or property.

9 **SEC. 6. COMMITTEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

10 (a) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the com-
11 mittee shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem
12 in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees
13 of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5,
14 United States Code, while away from their homes or reg-
15 ular places of business in the performance of services for
16 the committee.

17 (b) STAFF.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairperson of the com-
19 mittee may, without regard to the civil service laws
20 (including regulations), appoint and terminate an ex-
21 ecutive director and such other additional personnel
22 as may be necessary to enable the committee to per-
23 form its duties, except that the employment of an
24 executive director shall be subject to confirmation by
25 the committee.

1 (2) COMPENSATION.—The Chairperson of the
2 committee may fix the compensation of the executive
3 director and other personnel without regard to chap-
4 ter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5,
5 United States Code, relating to classification of posi-
6 tions and General Schedule pay rates, except that
7 the rate of pay for the executive director and other
8 personnel may not exceed the rate payable for level
9 V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of
10 that title.

11 (c) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—A Fed-
12 eral Government employee may be detailed to the com-
13 mittee without reimbursement, and such detail shall be
14 without interruption or loss of civil service status or privi-
15 lege.

16 (d) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMIT-
17 TENT SERVICES.—The Chairperson of the committee may
18 procure temporary and intermittent services under section
19 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individ-
20 uals that do not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual
21 rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive
22 Schedule under section 5316 of that title.