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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To instruct the Federal Communications Commission to initiate a notice of inquiry and instruct the Government Accountability Office to complete a study and report 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NEGUSE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To instruct the Federal Communications Commission to initiate a notice of inquiry and instruct the Government Accountability Office to complete a study and report 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “988 Lifeline Location
3 Improvement Act of 2026”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

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

11 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
12 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
13 gress” means—

14 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
15 and Transportation of the Senate;

16 (B) the Committee on Health, Education,
17 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

18 (C) the Committee on Energy and Com-
19 merce of the House of Representatives.

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

24 (4) EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER.—
25 The term “emergency communications center”
26 means—

1 (A) a facility that is designed to receive a
2 911 request for emergency assistance; or

3 (B) a public safety answering point, as de-
4 fined in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Federal
5 Regulations, or any successor regulation.

6 (5) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRO-
7 VIDER.—The term “telecommunications service pro-
8 vider” has the meaning given the term “service pro-
9 vider” in section 52.5(e) of title 47, Code of Federal
10 Regulations, or any successor regulation.

11 **SEC. 3. NOTICE OF INQUIRY.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the
13 date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Communica-
14 tions Commission shall initiate a notice of inquiry to ad-
15 dress the challenges to transmitting geolocation informa-
16 tion with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

17 (b) EVALUATION CONSIDERATIONS.—In evaluating
18 responses to the notice of inquiry under subsection (a),
19 the Federal Communications Commission shall consider—

20 (1) legal authorities with respect to mandating
21 the transmission of geolocation information, includ-
22 ing dispatchable location information, with calls to
23 the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline;

24 (2) the protection of consumer privacy with re-
25 spect to mandating the transmission of geolocation

1 information, including dispatchable location informa-
2 tion, with calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Life-
3 line;

4 (3) the feasibility and technical implementation
5 standards for telecommunications service providers,
6 911 system service providers, public safety answer-
7 ing points, and local crisis centers with respect to
8 mandating the transmission of geolocation informa-
9 tion;

10 (4) an assessment of the potential costs, fund-
11 ing requirements, and options for recovery of costs
12 for telecommunications service providers, the 988
13 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, the Veterans Crisis Line,
14 and local crisis centers with respect to mandating
15 the transmission of geolocation information;

16 (5) technical challenges associated with man-
17 dating the transmission of geolocation information
18 for users who access the 988 American Sign Lan-
19 guage line through direct video calling and video
20 relay service; and

21 (6) the technologies currently available to pro-
22 vide dispatchable location information and methods
23 for transferring location information from 988 cen-
24 ters to 911 centers.

1 **SEC. 4. GAO REPORT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
3 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
4 of the United States shall conduct a study and submit to
5 the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the
6 opportunities and challenges related to implementing
7 geolocation for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, includ-
8 ing—

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

14 (2) technical implementation standards for tele-
15 communications service providers, 911 system serv-
16 ice providers, emergency communications centers,
17 and local crisis centers; and

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

22 (b) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study under
23 subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United
24 States shall consult with—

25 (1) representatives from—

1 (A) telecommunications service providers
2 or organizations that represent telecommuni-
3 cations service providers;

4 (B) handset manufacturers or organiza-
5 tions that represent handset manufacturers;

6 (C) emergency communications centers or
7 organizations that represent emergency commu-
8 nications centers;

9 (D) 911 system service providers or orga-
10 nizations that represent 911 system service pro-
11 viders;

12 (E) State government, including those rep-
13 resenting low population States;

14 (F) local government, including those rep-
15 resenting small and rural communities;

16 (G) the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline;

17 (H) local crisis centers or organizations
18 that represent local crisis centers;

19 (I) the Veterans Crisis Line;

20 (J) the Substance Abuse and Mental
21 Health Services Administration;

22 (K) mental health services organizations;
23 and

24 (L) community mental health centers; and

1 (2) individuals with experience providing serv-
2 ices for people who are deaf or hard of hearing or
3 have hearing loss, such as providing access to the
4 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline through direct video
5 calling and video relay service.