

# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

## Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee

### CHARTER of the Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee

#### A. The Committee's Official Designation

The official designation of the advisory committee will be the "Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee" (hereinafter, the "Advisory Committee").

#### B. The Committee's Objectives and Scope of Its Activity

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") establishes this Advisory Committee pursuant to Section 603 of the Warning, Alert and Response Network Act ("WARN Act"). As set forth in Section 603 of the WARN Act, the purpose of the Advisory Committee is to develop and submit recommendations to the FCC regarding technical standards and protocols to enable commercial mobile service providers to transmit emergency alerts to their subscribers to the extent such providers elect to do so.

Pursuant to Section 603(c) of the WARN Act, the Committee will provide recommendations to the FCC in the following areas:

- 1. Protocols and Technical Capabilities and Procedures**  
For the recommendation of protocols, technical capabilities, and technical procedures through which electing commercial mobile service providers receive, verify, and transmit alerts to subscribers.
- 2. Technical Standards for Priority Alert Transmission**  
For the establishment of technical standards for the reliable, secure and priority transmission of alerts by electing commercial mobile service providers to subscribers (The Advisory Committee must consult with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST));
- 3. Technical Standards for Devices, Equipment, and Technologies** For relevant technical standards for devices and equipment and technologies used by electing commercial mobile service providers to transmit emergency alerts efficiently to subscribers (The Advisory Committee must consult with NIST);
- 4. Alerts to Non-English Speakers**  
For the technical capability to transmit emergency alerts by electing commercial mobile service providers to subscribers in languages in addition to English, to the extent practicable and feasible;

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee

5. **Customer Deactivation of Alert Service**  
Under which electing commercial mobile service providers may offer subscribers the capability of preventing the subscriber's device from receiving emergency alerts, or classes of such alerts, (other than an alert issued by the President), consistent with section 602(b)(2)(E) of H.R. 4954;
6. **Limits on Capability to Transmit Alerts**  
For a process under which commercial mobile service providers can elect to transmit emergency alerts if—
  - a. Not all of the devices or equipment used by such provider are capable of receiving such alerts; or
  - b. The provider cannot offer such alerts throughout the entirety of its service area; and
7. **Otherwise Necessary**  
As otherwise necessary to enable electing commercial mobile service providers to transmit emergency alerts to subscribers.

In developing its recommendations, the Advisory Committee shall take into consideration people with special needs (*e.g.*, people with disabilities and the elderly) and transmission of emergency alerts by electing commercial mobile service providers in ways that are compatible with the range of formats generated by the alert's initiator.

**C. Period of Time Necessary for the Committee to Carry Out its Purpose**  
The Committee will develop and submit its recommendations to the FCC within a period of one year after the date of enactment of the WARN Act.

**D. Official to Whom the Committee Reports**  
The Committee will report to the Chairman, Federal Communications Commission.

**E. Estimated Number and Frequency of Committee Meetings**  
Pursuant to Section 603 of the WARN Act, the initial meeting of the Advisory Committee shall take place no later than 60 days after the date of the Act's enactment. After the initial meeting, the Advisory Committee shall meet at the call of the chair. Any meetings held by the Advisory Committee shall be duly noticed at least 14 days in advance, absent exigent circumstances, and shall be open to the public. Informal subcommittees and working groups may meet more frequently to facilitate the work of the Advisory Committee.

**H. Rules**  
(1) *Quorum*- One-third of the members of the Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum for conducting business of the Advisory Committee.

# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

## Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee

(2) *Subcommittees*- To assist the Advisory Committee in carrying out its functions, the chair may establish appropriate subcommittees composed of members of the Advisory Committee.

(3) *Additional Rules*- The Advisory Committee may adopt other rules as needed.

### **I. Statutory Authority**

The Advisory Committee shall operate under the authority of Section 603 of the WARN Act. As set forth in Section 603(f) of the Act, neither the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) nor any rule, order, or regulation promulgated under that Act shall apply to the Advisory Committee.