

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 912

To amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to secure the suicide prevention lifeline from cybersecurity incidents, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

Mr. OBERNOLTE (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to secure the suicide prevention lifeline from cybersecurity incidents, 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 “9–8–8 Lifeline Cyber-
5 security Responsibility Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROTECTING SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE**
7 **FROM CYBERSECURITY INCIDENTS.**

8 (a) NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE PRO-
9 GRAM.—Section 520E–3(b) of the Public Health Service
10 Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–36c(b)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the
2 end;

3 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at
4 the end and inserting “; and”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(6) taking such steps as may be necessary to
7 ensure the suicide prevention hotline is protected
8 from cybersecurity incidents and eliminates known
9 cybersecurity vulnerabilities.”.

10 (b) REPORTING.—Section 520E–3 of the Public
11 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–36c) is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-
13 section (g); and

14 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(f) CYBERSECURITY REPORTING.—

17 “(1) NOTIFICATION.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The program’s net-
19 work administrator receiving Federal funding
20 pursuant to subsection (a) shall report to the
21 Assistant Secretary, in a manner that protects
22 personal privacy, consistent with applicable
23 Federal and State privacy laws—

24 “(i) any identified cybersecurity
25 vulnerabilities to the program within a rea-

1 sonable amount of time after identification
2 of such a vulnerability; and

3 “(ii) any identified cybersecurity inci-
4 dents to the program within a reasonable
5 amount of time after identification of such
6 incident.

7 “(B) LOCAL AND REGIONAL CRISIS CEN-
8 TERS.—Local and regional crisis centers par-
9 ticipating in the program shall report to the
10 program’s network administrator identified
11 under subparagraph (A), in a manner that pro-
12 tects personal privacy, consistent with applica-
13 ble Federal and State privacy laws—

14 “(i) any identified cybersecurity
15 vulnerabilities to the program within a rea-
16 sonable amount of time after identification
17 of such vulnerability; and

18 “(ii) any identified cybersecurity inci-
19 dents to the program within a reasonable
20 amount of time after identification of such
21 incident.

22 “(2) NOTIFICATION.—If the program’s network
23 administrator receiving funding pursuant to sub-
24 section (a) discovers, or is informed by a local or re-
25 gional crisis center pursuant to paragraph (1)(B) of,

1 a cybersecurity vulnerability or incident, within a
2 reasonable amount of time after such discovery or
3 receipt of information, such entity shall report the
4 vulnerability or incident to the Assistant Secretary.

5 “(3) CLARIFICATION.—

6 “(A) OVERSIGHT.—

7 “(i) LOCAL AND REGIONAL CRISIS
8 CENTERS.—Except as provided in clause
9 (ii), local and regional crisis centers par-
10 ticipating in the program shall oversee all
11 technology each center employs in the pro-
12 vision of services as a participant in the
13 program.

14 “(ii) NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR.—

15 The program’s network administrator re-
16 ceiving Federal funding pursuant to sub-
17 section (a) shall oversee the technology
18 each crisis center employs in the provision
19 of services as a participant in the program
20 if such oversight responsibilities are estab-
21 lished in the applicable network participa-
22 tion agreement.

23 “(B) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—The
24 cybersecurity incident reporting requirements
25 under this subsection shall supplement, and not

1 supplant, cybersecurity incident reporting re-
2 quirements under other provisions of applicable
3 Federal law that are in effect on the date of the
4 enactment of the 9–8–8 Lifeline Cybersecurity
5 Responsibility Act.”.

6 (c) STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date
7 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of
8 the United States shall—

9 (1) conduct and complete a study that evaluates
10 cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities associated
11 with the 9–8–8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline;
12 and

13 (2) submit a report on the findings of such
14 study to the Committee on Health, Education,
15 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Com-
16 mittee on Energy and Commerce of the House of
17 Representatives.

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