

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 238

To require the Federal Communications Commission to report annually to Congress regarding the security and reliability of the Nation's telecommunications network.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 27 (legislative day, JANUARY 5), 1993

Mr. PRESSLER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to report annually to Congress regarding the security and reliability of the Nation's telecommunications network.

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 "Telecommunications  
5 Network Security and Reliability Reporting Act of 1993".

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1           (1) telecommunications networks constitute an  
2           essential infrastructure for the Nation's economy  
3           and security;

4           (2) in the past several years there have been a  
5           significant number of severe network outages that  
6           temporarily left millions of United States telephone  
7           customers without telephone service;

8           (3) there has been no requirement for system-  
9           atic study of the security of the network or its vul-  
10          nerability to disruptions caused by technical failure,  
11          accident, or other causes; and

12          (4) there is a need for the Federal Communica-  
13          tions Commission to monitor network outages on a  
14          systematic and ongoing basis; to assess the adequacy  
15          of default, redundancy, and recovery mechanisms;  
16          and to recommend measures to prevent future out-  
17          ages.

18 **SEC. 3. STUDY OF NETWORK SECURITY AND RELIABILITY.**

19          The Federal Communications Commission shall con-  
20          duct a comprehensive study of the security and reliability  
21          of the Nation's telecommunications network to identify the  
22          sources of the network's vulnerability to outages and to  
23          determine what default, redundancy and recovery mecha-  
24          nisms are necessary to maintain and restore service.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

2       The Federal Communications Commission shall re-  
3 port to Congress within 12 months after the date of enact-  
4 ment of this Act the results of the study conducted pursu-  
5 ant to section 3. Such report shall include an analysis of  
6 information, regarding telephone service reliability and  
7 network outages, provided by major communications com-  
8 mon carriers and their telecommunications equipment and  
9 software suppliers and manufacturers, and the rec-  
10 ommendations of the Federal Communications Commis-  
11 sion as to the actions which it determines necessary to  
12 ensure the security and reliability of the network.

13 **SEC. 5. ANNUAL REPORT.**

14       Commencing with the 12-month period following the  
15 date of the submission of the report pursuant to section  
16 4, and each 12-month period thereafter, the Federal Com-  
17 munications Commission shall report to Congress regard-  
18 ing the security and reliability of the Nation's tele-  
19 communications network.

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