

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 26, 2025

The Honorable Brendan Carr
Chair
Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20554

Chair Carr:

We write to express our deep concern regarding the Commission's ongoing failure to publish its *January 8, 2025, Report and Order* in the Federal Register to implement multilingual Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs). This delay is not only indefensible but dangerous—it directly jeopardizes the ability of our communities to receive life-saving emergency information in the language they understand best.

On October 19, 2023, the Commission unanimously approved rules to modernize the WEA system by enabling alerts to be delivered in more than a dozen languages, including English and American Sign Language.¹ This was an important step forward to ensure that the WEA system serves *all* Americans. As a reminder, you voted in favor of this rule, recognizing the need to make sure emergency alerts can reach as many people as possible.

As directed by that Order, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau developed templates for the 18 most time-sensitive alerts in the 13 most commonly spoken languages in the United States, plus English and American Sign Language. The Commission released a Report and Order on January 8, 2025, that would require commercial mobile service (CMS) providers to install these templates on consumer devices within 30 months of publication in the *Federal Register*.²

However, more than four months later, that publication still has not occurred. As you know, the 30-month compliance clock cannot begin until the Report and Order appears in the Federal Register. As we saw during the devastating Los Angeles wildfires this year and recent hurricanes in North Carolina and Florida, non-English speakers rely on accurate and timely communications to stay informed and safe during an emergency.³ Your failure to complete this ministerial step—despite having supported the rule itself—has left this life-saving policy in limbo and significantly delayed access to multilingual alerts for millions of Americans.

As members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and the Congressional Black Caucus, we represent communities who are often the first to suffer the consequences when public safety systems fail to reach everyone effectively. Failing to implement this rule means denying millions of Americans access to potentially life-saving

¹ <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-23-88A1.pdf>

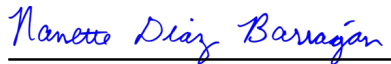
² <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-25-12A1.pdf>

³ <https://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/increased-access-asian-american-language-assistance-needed-emergencies>;
<https://apnews.com/article/florida-immigrants-hurricane-milton-latin-america-70c2a91ae2bc3f55eb14c7af4c0d9de2>

emergency alerts—whether for wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes, active shooters, or other disasters—in a language that they understand. That is unacceptable.

We urge you to immediately take all necessary steps to publish the January 8, 2025, Report and Order in the *Federal Register* and allow this critical, bipartisan rule to move forward without further delay.

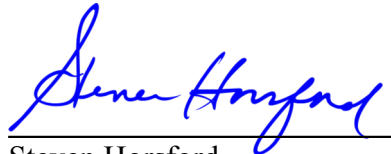
Sincerely,



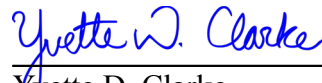
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



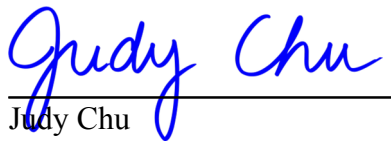
Adriano Espaillat
Chair
Congressional Hispanic
Caucus



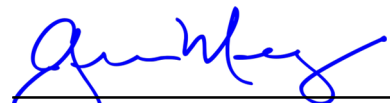
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



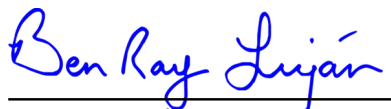
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



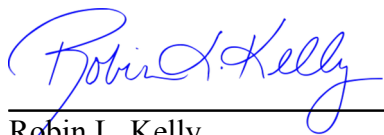
Grace Meng
CAPAC Chair



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



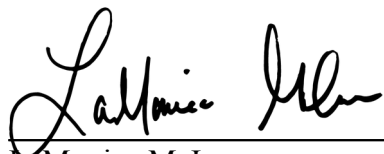
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



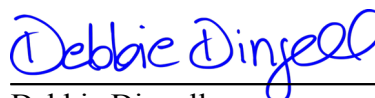
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



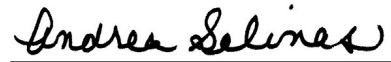
Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



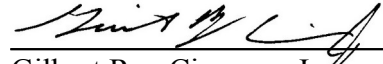
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



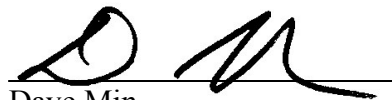
Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



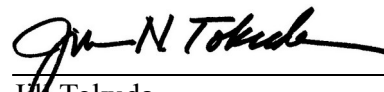
Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Ed Case
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress