



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 3/8/2021

Agenda Placement: 7A

Napa County Legislative Subcommittee Board Agenda Letter

TO: Napa County Legislative Subcommittee
FROM: REBECCA CRAIG for Minh Tran - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Nelson Cortez, STAFF ASSISTANT II - BOS - 7072991478
SUBJECT: SB 341 (McGuire) Telecommunications services: outages

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer seeks discussion and possible action on SB 341 (McGuire) that would require the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to share aggregate community isolation outage information and require providers to maintain on its internet website a public outage map showing the provider's outages, as specified.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SB 341 would require each provider of telecommunications service to maintain on its internet website a public outage map showing that provider's outages; requires CalOES, with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), to adopt regulation requirements for those maps; requires CalOES to aggregate data from the community isolation outage notification and post that aggregated data on its website without identifying the service provider; and require the CPUC to do an annual report to the legislation on the commission's actions taken based on that information provided by CalOES.

Request from Senator McGuire to support.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

County Strategic Plan pillar addressed:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**Synopsis and Background**

SB 341 will strengthen our telecommunication infrastructure by requiring the CalOES to share aggregate community isolation outage information with the CPUC and requires the CPUC to report to the Legislature on action taken using the aggregated community Isolation outage information. It will additionally requires OES to share this information on their website without naming specific service providers. SB 341 will also require CalOES to create rules on outage maps for telecommunication providers and require the providers to abide by those rules within 6 months and publish a map on its website.

Issue:

SB 670 (McGuire, 2019) required telecommunications service providers to submit an outage notification to OES whenever a community isolation outage occurs that limits the ability to make 911 calls or receive emergency notifications. Currently, when there are telecommunication outages, CalOES does not have the ability to share that outage information with CPUC. The CPUC regulates the telecommunication networks, but they are unable to get access to the community isolation outage information CalOES has in order to verify backup power requirements and other resiliency efforts are working. Additionally, CalOES does not have the ability to create statewide outage reports much like Federal DIRS reports. In October 2019, the federal FCC put out daily reports (DIRS reports) during the large PSPS events which displayed the cell towers and broadband customers experiencing an outage. During the 2020 PSPS events, those FCC reports were never created. Lastly, many utilities create public outage maps to show the public where their outages are occurring and the estimated time of restoration. While some telecommunication providers have maps, these maps do not always share clear information on outages for the users.

Status

Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities & Communications (Hearing 3/15)
Senate Committee on Governmental Organization (TBD)

Support and Opposition

CSAC: Pending

RCRC: Pending

NACo: N/A

Local: N/A (Marin County)

STAFF COMMENTS

Platform: Yes

Federal: N/A

State: Priority 1 - Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), pages 7-9

Potential Impact to Napa County

Because this issue is consistent with the Legislative Platforms, staff recommends the subcommittee provide direction for staff to draft and distribute a support letter to interested parties, bypassing the Board of Supervisors.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Bill Text

Recommendation: Approve
Reviewed By: Helene Franchi