



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

March 11, 2019

The Honorable Mike McGuire
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5061
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 670 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), I am writing to express our support for your Senate Bill 670, which would require providers of telecommunication services to inform the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) of 911 service or emergency warning outages. RCRC is an association of thirty-six rural California counties, and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from those member counties.

Currently, telecommunication providers are not required to provide pertinent outage information such as approximation of areas affected, number of customers affected, or time of repair. And while there is a reporting threshold for large outages to the Federal Communications Commissions, outage information is not provided to CalOES and local offices of emergency services.

SB 670 would require telecommunication providers that provide access to 911 service to notify CalOES in the event of a service outage or any outage affecting emergency warning capabilities. CalOES would then be responsible for notifying affected local offices of emergency services or county sheriff. Telecommunication providers would be required to notify CalOES within 60 minutes of the outage and provide a description of the estimated area affected, approximate number of customers affected, estimated time to repair the outage, and a contact person that can provide CalOES with further updates. Additionally, once the 911 service has been restored, the telecommunication provider would be required to notify CalOES that restoration of service has occurred.

SB 670 would ensure that state and local offices of emergency services have the crucial information they need to address 911 service interruptions in a timely manner. RCRC believes SB 670 will help local governments, particularly those serving small, rural communities, to more readily respond to these outages.

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For the above reasons, RCRC supports your SB 670. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at trhine@rcrcnet.org or (916) 447-4806.

Sincerely,



TRACY RHINE
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Jim Nielsen, Member of the State Senate
The Honorable Bill Dodd, Member of the State Senate
The Honorable Henry I. Stern, Member of the State Senate
The Honorable Richard Bloom, Member of the State Assembly
The Honorable Marc Levine, Member of the State Assembly
The Honorable James Gallagher, Member of the State Assembly
The Honorable Jim Wood, Member of the State Assembly