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PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU ANNOUNCES COMPLIANCE DATES FOR CERTAIN EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) AND WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERTS (WEA) RULES

PS Docket Nos. 15-91, 15-94

On June 17, 2021, the Commission released a Report and Order in PS Docket Nos. 15-91 and 15-94 implementing provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2021 (NDAA21) by adopting new rules to improve the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA). Certain of these rules were submitted as new or revised information collections for approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) prior to becoming effective.

On April 14, 2022, the OMB approved the information collections associated with the *NDAA21 R&O* (OMB Control Nos. 3060-0207 and 3060-1302). Today the Commission published notice of this approval in the Federal Register,³ making compliance with these rules effective as follows:

- Compliance with Section 10.11(b) of the Commission's rules is required by July 31, 2022. This rule requires Commercial Mobile Service providers to update handset displays consistent with the name change from Presidential Alerts to National Alerts.⁴
- Compliance with the following rules is required as of today, June 6, 2022:
 - Section 11.21 of the Commission's rules, requiring Commission approval or rejection of State EAS Plans in 60 days.
 - o Section 11.21(a) of the Commission's rules, requiring annual submission of State EAS Plans.
 - Section 11.21(a)(8) of the Commission's rules, requiring annual certification by State Emergency Communications Committees (SECCs) that the SECC met at least once in the prior year to review and update the State EAS Plan before filing.

¹ Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Emergency Alert System; Wireless Emergency Alerts, PS Dockets 15-94 and 15-91, Report and Order, 36 FCC Rcd 10694 (June 17, 2021) (NDAA21 R&O).

² NDAA21 R&O, 36 FCC Rcd at 10724, para. 66.

³ Federal Communications Commission, Emergency Alert System, Wireless Emergency Alerts: National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, 87 Fed. Reg. 34212, 34213 (June 6, 2022).

⁴ NDAA21 R&O, 36 FCC Rcd at 10724, para. 66.

- o Section 11.45(c) of the Commission's rules, facilitating EAS false alert reporting by government entities.
- Section 10.520(d)(2) of the Commission's rules, facilitating WEA false alert reporting by government entities.

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