



For Immediate Release  
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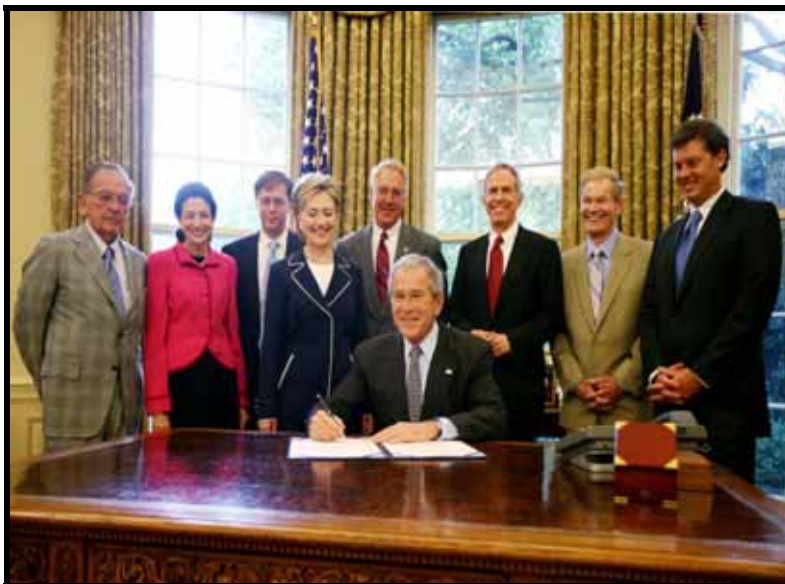
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## PRESIDENT SIGNS 911 BILL INTO LAW

**July 23, 2008 – Washington, D.C.** President Bush signed into law the **New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008 (H.R. 3403)** at a ceremony at the White House.

**H.R. 3403, the New Emerging Technologies 911 Improvements Act of 2008** is a law to promote and enhance public safety by facilitating the rapid deployment of IP-enabled 911 and E-911 services, encourage the Nation's transition to a national IP-enabled emergency network, and improve 911 and E-911 access to those with disabilities.

The legislation was introduced in the House by Representative Bart Gordon (D-TN) with the support of E9-1-1 Caucus Co-Chairs Anna Eshoo (D-CA) and John Shimkus (R-IL), and introduced in the Senate by Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) with the support of E9-1-1 Caucus Co-Chairs Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and Senator Ted Stevens (R-AK). The final version of the measure was approved by Congress June 23, 2008 and signed into law today.



**President George W. Bush signs H.R. 3403, the New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008, Wednesday, July 23, 2008 in the Oval Office.**

President Bush is joined by from left, Alaska Senator Ted Stevens (E9-1-1 Caucus Co-Chair), Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Kevin Martin, New York Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (E9-1-1 Caucus Co-Chair), Rep. John Shimkus from Illinois (E9-1-1 Caucus Co-Chair), Rep. Bart Gordon from Tennessee, Florida Senator Bill Nelson and Rep. Chip Pickering, from Mississippi. (White House photo by Joyce N. Boghosian.)

Gregory Rohde, Executive Director of the E9-1-1 Institute said, "The enactment of this law will help move our country's 9-1-1 system forward and into the next generation of emergency communications services we need to better secure and protect individuals and communities. The strong bi-partisan effort by the Senators and Representatives who pushed this bill through Congress not only demonstrates their commitment to public safety but also speaks to the high level of importance 9-1-1 is for our Nation."

"The **NET 911 Act**" is the third major piece of legislation the E9-1-1 Caucus and their supporters have enacted since 2004. Previously, the E9-1-1 Caucus worked to pass the ENHANCE 911 Act of 2004 and earlier this year, they pushed through resolutions which establish April as 'National 911 Education Month.' Rohde said, "The Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus has proven to be an effective force to advance 9-1-1 services for America. The entire public safety community and industry leaders are all very proud to salute their excellent leadership."

The major provisions of the NET 911 Act of 2008 are as follows:

- Requires IP-enabled voice service providers to provide 911 service, including E-911 (enhanced 911) service, to their subscribers;
- Expands the scope of the ENHANCE 911 grant program to include IP-enabled 9-1-1 services;
- Requires the E-911 Implementation Coordination Office to develop a national plan for migrating to a national IP-enabled emergency network;
- Requires IP-enabled voice service carriers, IP-enabled voice users of 911 communications, and public safety answering points (facilities designated to receive 911 calls and route them to emergency personnel) (PSAPs), parity in liability protection with local exchange companies, non-wireless 911 service users, and non-wireless PSAPs, respectively;
- Authorizes a telecommunications carrier to use, disclose, or permit access to call location information in emergencies; and
- Prohibits the administrator of any database used to facilitate emergency services from using for any competitive purpose data obtained from unaffiliated telecommunications carriers or IP-enabled voice service providers in the course of maintaining and operating that database.

**About the E9-1-1 Institute:** The E9-1-1 Institute, [www.e911institute.org](http://www.e911institute.org), is a not-for-profit organization, which provides administrative and policy support to the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. Gregory L. Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, serves as the E9-1-1 Institute's Executive Director.

**About the E9-1-1 Caucus:** Established in 2002, the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus seeks to raise public awareness and educate policy makers on the importance of the nation's 9-1-1 system and to advance the availability of E9-1-1 services throughout the county. The E9-1-1 Caucus works closely with the public safety community, industry, and citizens to ensure that the best technology is available for emergency communications and that the call centers and emergency networks are adequately funded. To learn more about the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus visit [www.e911institute.org](http://www.e911institute.org).