

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 42 (SB 69)

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

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New law requires, on or before June 1, 2021 each cable service provider and video service provider shall prepare and submit to the La. Public Service Commission (commission) an emergency service plan, which shall include a provider's emergency preparedness and response plan to an emergency or disaster.

Provides the emergency service plan shall include all of the following information:

- (1) The name and contact information of two persons who have knowledge of the provider's emergency operations.
- (2) The identification of any available human resources and their position and responsibilities during an emergency.
- (3) The provider's plan for obtaining resources that may be necessary during an emergency, including but not limited to communication, equipment, generators, and vehicles.
- (4) The arrangement of any alternative facility if a facility is needed for the operation and continuity of service.
- (5) A description of the drills or exercises to be performed at least annually that test and evaluate the effectiveness of the emergency service plan.
- (6) A schedule for the regular evaluation and a risk mitigation strategy for all operating assets that may be at a higher risk or are prone to damage during an emergency.
- (7) The provider's means of communication with the commission in the event of a disruption of telecommunication services.

Provides that upon receipt of an emergency service plan, the commission shall review the plan to determine if it is in compliance with new law and any applicable rules and regulations of the commission.

Provides that on or before August 1st of each year, the commission shall submit a written declaration certifying compliance or noncompliance of each cable or video service provider's emergency service plan to the director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs, and the House Committee on Commerce.

Requires each cable or video service provider to review its emergency plan annually. If changes are made the revised plan shall be submitted to the commission on or before June 1st. If there are no changes to the emergency service plan, written notification that the previously submitted plan is current shall be submitted to the commission on or before June 1st.

Requires the commission to adopt rules and regulations to implement the provisions of new law on or before March 1, 2021.

Provides that the filing of an emergency service plan in accordance with new law shall not subject any cable or video service provider to any regulatory jurisdiction by the commission not in effect on December 1, 2020.

Provides that if a cable or video service provider uses the same facilities to provide any other service regulated by the commission and files with the commission an emergency service plan for that service that includes an emergency preparedness and response plan for cable service, video service, or both, that cable or video service provider shall not be required to submit an additional emergency service plan pursuant to the provision of proposed law.

Provides that any cable service provider or video service provider found by the commission, after notice and hearing, to be in violation of new law shall be subject to a civil fine not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation, and any subsequent violation of new law shall not exceed \$5,000.

Effective December 1, 2020.

(Adds R.S. 45:1611-1613)