

July 15, 2025

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street, NE
Washington, DC, 20554

Re: PS Docket Nos. 15-91 and 15-94; Supporting Additional Languages for Multilingual Wireless Emergency Alerts

Dear FCC,

Our organizations represent millions of Americans that primarily speak Spanish at home. Many of our communities have been hit hard by devastating hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes and floods in recent years, and access to emergency alert information, in Spanish and delivered on our cellphones, has been a vital public service helping to keep us safe and apprised of recovery information.

We write to urge the FCC to focus on enhancing the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system to reach all community members, *in their native language*, with timely, understandable, and actionable information during crises. As the [National Hispanic Media Coalition](#) noted, the WEA system should reflect the evolving demographics of the United States and the multifaceted nature of contemporary disasters and emergencies. However, it is not clear to us that the FCC's multilingual templates will meet that goal.

We have heard many emergency officials say that they do not intend to use the FCC's templates because the pre-scripted language is not flexible enough to address hyper-localized emergencies. We are also concerned that, for those emergency agencies that do use them, the message would involve generic, "check a box" information that may not clearly apply to a specific incident.

We need a multilingual format that will deliver information carefully crafted for our communities to respond to rapidly evolving disasters. Because many local officials responsible for sending alerts may choose to ignore the pre-scripted templates, and others may send genericized alerts, we urge the FCC to take the time now to consider other options that may better serve our community.

Today, local emergency officials use WEA to send messages in Spanish that include links to websites with maps or videos that provide helpful instructions in multiple languages. And new technologies, like machine learning translation, may hold the promise of enhancing local emergency officials' ability to craft multilingual emergency information for rapidly evolving emergencies that are far more local than the FCC's pre-scripted templates.

It does not make sense to divert valuable public safety resources toward deploying pre-scripted multilingual templates that are unlikely to be used widely when other solutions can better serve communities that primarily speak languages other than English at home.

Regards,

Brenda Castillo

President and CEO

National Hispanic Media Coalition



Rosa Mendoza

Founder, President and CEO

ALLvanza



Mario Rodriguez

CEO/President

Hispanic 100 Policy Committee



Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP

President

National Hispanic Health Foundation



Ramiro A. Cavazos

President & CEO

United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



Carlos Orta

President & CEO

The Latino Coalition



JudeAnne Heath

Executive Director

HTTP



Ignacio Salazar

President & CEO

SER National



Antonio Tijerino

President & CEO

Hispanic Heritage Foundation



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