

OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE ANNA G. ESHOO (CA-14)

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<http://eshoo.house.gov>

**Rep. Eshoo Introduces 2-1-1 Legislation**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – On the opening day of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, Rep. Anna G. Eshoo, D-Calif., introduced the *Calling for 2-1-1 Act of 2007*. The bipartisan legislation will provide individuals and families in need with greater access to information and referrals for human services and volunteer opportunities in communities across America.

“People facing crises and difficult problems often don’t know where to begin to find the help they need in their communities,” Eshoo said. “Expanding our country’s 2-1-1 system will bridge that gap by providing one phone number people can call to find child care providers, drug and alcohol treatment, elder care and other vital services supported by federal, state and local governments, the private sector and nonprofit organizations.”

The FCC has designated “2-1-1” for community information and referral purposes, but the service only reaches about two-thirds of the U.S. population. 2-1-1 services are only available statewide in 17 states.

Expanding 2-1-1 services would strengthen the social service infrastructure and enable communities to better assess their social service needs. 2-1-1 services would also serve our country in times of emergency, as they did during Hurricane Katrina when the 2-1-1 system provided a crucial backup in areas where 9-1-1 centers went down.

*The Calling for 2-1-1 Act* would authorize \$700 million through fiscal 2013 in federal matching grants to enable nationwide implementation of 2-1-1 services. The legislation was introduced with 53 original cosponsors and is strongly supported by United Way.

The bill has been designated H.R. 211.

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**H.R. 211, the *Calling for 211 Act of 2007* Cosponsors**

1. Edward J. Markey (MA-07)
2. Fred Upton (MI-06)
3. Charles W. "Chip" Pickering (MS-03)
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5. John P. Murtha (PA-12)
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7. Gus M. Bilirakis (FL-09)

8. Henry Waxman (CA-30)
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10. Thomas E. Allen (ME-01)
11. Bart Gordon (TN-06)
12. Ed Pastor (AZ-04)
13. Jay Inslee (WA-01)
14. Gene Green (TX-29)
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16. Lois Capps (CA-23)
17. Hilda L. Solis (CA-32)
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20. George Radanovich (CA-19)
21. Mike Rogers (MI-08)
22. Heather Wilson (NM-01)
23. Tom Lantos (CA-12)
24. Peter T. King (NY-03)
25. Vernon J. Ehlers (MI-03)
26. Peter A. DeFazio (OR-04)
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28. Leonard L. Boswell (IA-03)
29. Susan A. Davis (CA-53)
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31. Rick Larsen (WA-02)
32. Cathy McMorris (WA-05)
33. Barbara Lee (CA-09)
34. Rodney Alexander (LA-05)
35. Jim McDermott (WA-07)
36. Chaka Fattah (PA-02)
37. Henry Cuellar (TX-28)
38. Robert A. Brady (PA-01)
39. Todd Platts (PA-19)
40. Betty McCollum (MN-04)
41. Jim Cooper (TN-05)
42. Loretta Sanchez (CA-47)
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44. David G. Reichert (WA-08)
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47. Zoe Lofgren (CA-16)
48. Anthony D. Weiner (NY-09)
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50. Michael H. Michaud (ME-02)
51. Danny K. Davis (IL-07)
52. Patrick J. Kennedy (RI-01)
53. Jim Gerlach (PA-06)