

## ISSUE

WASHINGTON (CNN) -- A program to create a nationwide alert system using cell phones and other mobile devices was approved Thursday by the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC said cell phone companies that voluntarily **opt** into the system would send text-based alert messages to **subscribers** in response to three types of events:

1. A disaster that could **jeopardize** the health and safety of Americans, such as a terrorist attack; these would **trigger** a national alert from the president of the United States.
2. **Imminent** or ongoing threats such as hurricanes, tornadoes or earthquakes
3. Child abductions or **Amber alerts**.



## Vocabulary



Child Abduction



Tornado



Terrorist Attack



## LET'S TALK

- 1) If this program will be approved in Japan/Taiwan, are you going to subscribe? Why / why not?
- 2) Cite 3 advantages and disadvantages of this program.
- 3) What do you think is the best way to lessen life-lost during such emergencies?
- 4) Japan is one of the countries most hit by earthquakes. What are the safety precautions your government and your people do in case there is one?
- 5) Cite other suggestions to lessen the number of victims and deaths during disaster.
- 6) Some companies have seminars to educate the employees about the things to remember during disaster. How often should the company conduct such seminars? Yearly? Every after 2 years? Why?