

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 1304

PRINTER NO. 3736

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund
911 Fund
Municipal Funds

DATE INTRODUCED

June 2, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Solomon

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 1304 makes omnibus changes to Chapter 53 (911 Emergency Communication Services) of Title 35 (Health and Safety) to provide for the next generation 911 system.

This legislation makes amendments and additions to Chapter 53 as follows:

- Section 5302 – Provides new and updated definitions.
- Section 5303 – Requires the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to perform triennial rather than biennial performance audits of 911 systems, procure industry standard next generation 911 call delivery services to 911 systems, establish joint purchasing agreements and provide education to authorities on next generation 911 standards. This section is also amended to add a representative of the Career Fire Chiefs Association as a nonvoting member of the 911 Advisory Board.
- Section 5304 – Makes technical changes and requires counties to:
 - Develop, publish, maintain and provide mapping information necessary for the next generation 911 system,
 - Utilize the next generation 911 call delivery services procured by PEMA and
 - Maintain compliance with cybersecurity standards published by PEMA.
- Section 5304.2 (New) – Establishes powers and duties for addressing authorities relating to the next generation 911 system.
- Section 5304.3 (New) – Establishes requirements for the next generation 911 service provider.
- Section 5305 – Requires 911 system plans to provide for the implementation of the next generation 911 system.
- Section 5306.1 – Repeals provisions relating to prior 911 Fund distribution formulas and provides that the distribution formula may be reviewed by the 911 Advisory Board every four years.

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- Section 5307 – Provides the Department of Revenue with audit authority for entities that remit the 911 surcharge and clarifies that the surcharge shall be applied to Session Initiation Protocol access lines.
- Section 5307.1 – Provides that entities remitting the 911 surcharge shall certify the accuracy of the remittance according to procedures established by the Department of Revenue instead of PEMA.
- Section 5310 – Increases penalties for intentional nonemergency contacts with the 911 system. A first offense is increased from a third-degree to second-degree misdemeanor. A second offense is a first-degree misdemeanor. Third and subsequent offenses are third-degree felonies.
- Section 5311.15 – Requires multiline telephone systems to comply with federal law and regulations.
- Sections 5309, 5311.1, 5331.20, 5311.23 and 5399 – Makes updates and technical changes.
- Sections 5311.16, 5311.17, 5311.18, 5311.19 and 5311.22 – Repealed.

This legislation is scheduled to take effect as follows:

- The addition of a representative of the Career Fire Chiefs Association to the 911 Advisory Board – 60 days.
- The new Section 5304.2 regarding powers and duties of addressing authorities – 180 days.
- The remainder of this legislation shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to PEMA, enactment of House Bill 1304 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth or municipal funds. The changes contained in this legislation codify updates to the 911 system that have been planned and accounted for in existing agency and county budgets.