

HB 1156 -- Emergency Service Response

Sponsor: Bruns

This bill establishes the Enhanced 911 Communications Provider Advisory Board within the Department of Public Safety replacing the Wireless Service Provider Enhanced 911 Advisory Board which is abolished. The board, to be appointed by the Governor, is given specified powers and duties and must submit an annual report by September 30 to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President Pro Tem of the Senate containing the immediately preceding fiscal year's quarterly and annual receipts and disbursements with the purpose for the disbursements, the total number and the annual reduction in the number of public safety answering points in the state, the availability and status of implementation of 911 service in the state, and call volumes provided by landline providers, wireless telephones, voice over Internet protocol services, and other alternative services.

The Enhanced 911 Communications Fund is created to replace the Wireless Service Provider Enhanced 911 Service Fund which is abolished to distribute enhanced 911 communications fees so that 60% of the revenues will be remitted to the jurisdiction from which the fees were collected and 40% will be used for a grant program administered by the board to allow public safety answering points to establish or upgrade 911 systems. Currently, fees collected by wireless service providers are not to exceed 50 cents per wireless telephone number per month. Upon voter approval, the bill changes this fee to a 25-cent per access to a public safety answering point per month fee. If the ballot measure fails, the fee amount will remain at the existing level.

All public safety answering points must develop and submit to the board a plan to network and consolidate public safety answering points together to create the most effective, efficient, and streamlined public safety answering point use within each county.