

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1663

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES ROORDA (Sponsor), MEADOWS, FALLERT, HARRIS,
FRAME, CASEY AND KOMO (Co-sponsors).

4070L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 321.243, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to taxes
for central emergency dispatching services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 321.243, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu
2 thereof, to be known as section 321.243, to read as follows:

321.243. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, an additional
2 tax of not to exceed three cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation may be levied and
3 collected by any city, town, village, county, or fire protection district, or a central fire and
4 emergency services board established in subsection 4 of this section. All the funds derived from
5 such tax shall be used solely for the purpose of establishing and providing a joint central fire and
6 emergency dispatching service, and, in any county with a charter form of government and with
7 more than one million inhabitants, for expenditures for equipment and services, except for
8 salaries, wages, and benefits, by cities, towns, villages, counties, or fire protection districts which
9 contract with such joint central fire and emergency dispatching service.

10 2. The additional tax prescribed by this section shall be levied only when the governing
11 body of the city, town, village, county, fire protection district, or central fire and emergency
12 services board determines that a central fire and emergency dispatching center will meet the
13 minimum requirements set by section 321.245, and, except where a central fire and emergency
14 services board is established in accordance with subsection 4 of this section, when the governing
15 body has entered into a contract with the center for fire and emergency dispatching services. The
16 funds from the tax shall be kept separate and apart from all other funds of the city, town, village,

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended
to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 county, fire protection district, or central fire and emergency services board and shall be paid out
18 only on order of the governing body. Except as provided in subsection 4 of this section, all funds
19 received by such center, and all operations of such center shall be governed and controlled by
20 a board of directors consisting of one member from each such agency using the joint central fire
21 and emergency dispatching service. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 of this section,
22 in any county, city, town, or village, where a tax-supported fire protection district is provided
23 emergency dispatching services by any form of joint communication organization or emergency
24 dispatching center, receiving directly or indirectly any funds so levied and collected as provided
25 in this section including any funds or tariffs paid by telephone subscribers for 911 emergency
26 service, such joint communication organization, however organized, shall be governed by a
27 board of directors, and the board of directors shall consist in part of one member appointed by
28 each county, city, town, village or tax-supported fire protection district, so served. The members
29 shall be an elected official of a fire protection district, ambulance district or city council
30 appointed by each such agency to serve for a one-year term or until a successor is duly appointed.

31 3. In addition to the tax prescribed by subsections 1 and 2 of this section, an additional
32 tax of not to exceed two cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation which has been
33 approved by the voters may be levied and collected by any city, town, village, county, or fire
34 protection district, or a central fire and emergency services board established in subsection 4 of
35 this section of a county of the first classification with a charter form of government which has
36 a population between two hundred thousand and five hundred thousand inhabitants, but all of
37 the funds derived from such tax shall be used solely for the purpose of establishing and providing
38 a joint central fire and emergency dispatching service.

39 4. A central fire and emergency services board shall be established in any county of the
40 first classification with a charter form of government which has a population between two
41 hundred thousand and five hundred thousand inhabitants in the manner prescribed in this
42 subsection. The board shall have all powers and duties prescribed in this section and section
43 321.245 to establish and provide a joint central fire and emergency dispatching service. The
44 initial board shall be established at the April, 1996, election. The election authority shall be
45 ordered to conduct such election, which shall be conducted as a nonpartisan election. The board
46 shall consist of one member elected from each county council district. All board members shall
47 serve for four-year terms, except that of the initial members elected, the members elected from
48 odd-numbered county council districts shall serve for terms of two years and the members
49 elected from even-numbered county council districts shall serve for terms of four years. Each
50 member shall be a resident of the county council district from which the member is elected. No
51 person who is a paid employee of any fire protection district, ambulance district, joint central fire
52 and emergency dispatch board, or a paid employee of a fire or ambulance department of a

53 municipality shall be elected to the joint central fire and emergency dispatch board. At such
54 election, the election authority of the county shall submit to the qualified voters of the county a
55 proposal for the board to levy and collect the taxes prescribed in this section, and such tax shall
56 be conditioned on the replacement of the tax levied in such county by the county under this
57 section with the new tax levied by the board. A portion of the funds derived from the tax levied
58 pursuant to this subsection shall be used to reimburse the county for the cost of the election held
59 in April, 1996, and any subsequent elections that are necessary for the operation of the board and
60 the board's duties. In addition, if such a tax is approved, any funds remaining in the separate
61 fund kept by the county, as required by subsection 2 of this section, and any property and
62 equipment purchased with moneys in such separate fund held by the county shall be transferred
63 to the fund maintained by the board for the same purpose. The board shall abide by section
64 50.660, RSMo, in the letting of contracts. The board shall be audited by the state auditor
65 pursuant to section 29.230, RSMo. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the board
66 shall meet as established in the bylaws. Any other meeting may be called by four of the seven
67 members voting in favor of having an additional meeting.

68 **5. Any fire protection district in any county with a charter form of government and**
69 **with more than one hundred ninety-eight thousand but fewer than one hundred**
70 **ninety-nine thousand two hundred inhabitants that has levied any tax under this section**
71 **and has levied and imposed any sales tax for central fire and emergency dispatching**
72 **services may submit a proposal to the voters of the fire protection district to use the**
73 **revenue derived from the tax imposed under this section for county general revenue**
74 **purposes. No revenues derived from any such tax imposed under this section shall be used**
75 **for any purpose other than the stated purpose unless and until such proposal to use the**
76 **revenue for county general revenue purposes has been submitted to and approved by the**
77 **voters of the fire protection district in the same manner as other proposals are submitted**
78 **to and approved by the voters of the fire protection district.**

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