



2015-2016 General Assembly

HOUSE BILL 512: Amend/Clarify Back-Up Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) Requirements

Committee:

Introduced by:

Analysis of: S.L. 2015-219

Date:

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Staff Attorney

SUMMARY: *S.L. 2015-219 allows time extensions for implementation of back-up PSAP requirements to July 1, 2017, under certain circumstances; and requires the 911 Board to investigate alternatives for facilitation of uniform procurement and pricing of 911 eligible expenses through bulk purchasing and other means.*

This act became effective August 18, 2015.

CURRENT LAW: The 911 Board distributes 911 fees to "public safety answering points" (PSAPs). Each PSAP is the public safety agency that receives incoming 911 calls and dispatches public safety agencies in response. The distributions from 911 fees may only be used for certain eligible purchases by the PSAP.

Session Law 2014-66 requires each PSAP to plan for 911 call-taking in the event the primary PSAP cannot process calls. PSAPs are authorized to use distributions from the 911 Fund to pay for dispatch equipment at a back-up PSAP. As of July 1, 2016, PSAPs will not be eligible for distributions from the 911 Fund if the PSAP does not have a back-up PSAP.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 1 of S.L. 2015-219 requires a PSAP to implement a plan by July 1, 2016, for 911 call-taking in the event 911 calls cannot be received and processed in the primary PSAP. If a PSAP has made substantial progress toward implementation of the plan, the 911 Board may grant a time extension until July 1, 2017, for that PSAP to complete implementation.

Section 2 of the act requires the 911 Board to investigate alternatives for facilitation of uniform procurement and pricing of 911 eligible expenses through bulk purchasing and other means and report its findings and requests for legislative action to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology by May 1, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act became effective August 18, 2015.

O. Walker Reagan
Director



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