



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 76**

*January Session, 2001*

Senate Bill No. 720

*Senate, March 29, 2001*

The Committee on Public Safety reported through SEN. PENN of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING A REVERSE 9-1-1 SYSTEM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Subsection (a) of section 28-24 of the general statutes is repealed and  
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) There is established an Office of State-Wide Emergency  
4 Telecommunications which shall be in the Division of Fire, Emergency  
5 and Building Services within the Department of Public Safety. The  
6 Office of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications shall be  
7 responsible for developing and maintaining a state-wide emergency  
8 service telecommunications policy. In connection with said policy the  
9 office shall:

10 (1) Develop a state-wide emergency service telecommunications  
11 plan specifying emergency police, fire and medical service  
12 telecommunications systems needed to provide coordinated  
13 emergency service telecommunications to all state residents, including

14 the physically disabled;

15 (2) Pursuant to the recommendations of the task force established by  
16 public act 95-318\* to study enhanced 9-1-1 telecommunications  
17 services, and in accordance with regulations adopted by the  
18 Commissioner of Public Safety pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
19 section, develop and administer, by July 1, 1997, an enhanced  
20 emergency 9-1-1 program, which shall provide for: (A) The  
21 replacement of existing 9-1-1 terminal equipment for each public safety  
22 answering point, (B) the subsidization of regional public safety  
23 emergency telecommunications centers, with enhanced subsidization  
24 for municipalities with a population in excess of seventy thousand; (C)  
25 the establishment of a transition grant program to encourage  
26 regionalization of public safety telecommunications centers; and (D)  
27 the establishment of a regional emergency telecommunications service  
28 credit in order to support regional dispatch services;

29 (3) Provide technical telecommunications assistance to state and  
30 local police, fire and emergency medical service agencies;

31 (4) Provide frequency coordination for such agencies;

32 (5) Coordinate and assist in state-wide planning for 911 and E911  
33 systems;

34 (6) Study the costs and benefits of a reverse 9-1-1 system and make  
35 recommendations concerning the development and administration of  
36 such a system;

37 [(6)] (7) Review and make recommendations concerning proposed  
38 legislation affecting emergency service telecommunications; and

39 [(7)] (8) Review and make recommendations to the General  
40 Assembly concerning emergency service telecommunications funding.

**PS**      *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** Cost, (Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund), (FY 02)

**Affected Agencies:** Department of Public Safety (Office of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications)

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation****State Impact:**

This bill would result in one-time costs to the Department of Public Safety's Office of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications, estimated at \$5,000 to \$10,000 in FY 02. These costs would be absorbed within the existing resources of the Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund, which finances the operations of the office and obtains its revenues from a monthly fee on telephone lines. The bill requires the office to study the costs and benefits of a reverse 9-1-1 system, and to make recommendations concerning the development and administration of such a system. The costs would result from hiring a consultant to assist the office in conducting the study.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

SB 720

***AN ACT CONCERNING A REVERSE 9-1-1 SYSTEM.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Office of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications to study the costs and benefits of a reverse 9-1-1 system and recommend ways to develop and administer such a system.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

**BACKGROUND*****Reverse 9-1-1***

Reverse 9-1-1 is a 24-hour computer system that allows an operator (usually a police department) to send recorded messages to hundreds of homes during emergencies. The system can be programmed to transmit messages to specific geographical locations, residents and businesses, or an entire county if necessary.

***Office of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications***

This office oversees the statewide-enhanced 911 system. Among other things, it trains and certifies emergency telecommunicators and reviews and recommends legislation affecting emergency service telecommunications.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 21 Nay 0

