



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 273**

*January Session, 2005*

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1276

*Senate, April 12, 2005*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. COLEMAN of the 2nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE E 9-1-1 COMMISSION.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 28-24 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

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] forty  
25 thousand; (C) the establishment of a transition grant program to  
26 encourage regionalization of public safety telecommunications centers;  
27 and (D) the establishment of a regional emergency telecommunications  
28 service 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) Review and make recommendations concerning proposed  
35 legislation affecting emergency service telecommunications; and

36 (7) Review and make recommendations to the General Assembly  
37 concerning emergency service telecommunications funding.

38 (b) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall adopt regulations, in  
39 accordance with chapter 54, establishing eligibility standards for state  
40 financial assistance to local or regional police, fire and emergency  
41 medical service agencies providing emergency service  
42 telecommunications. Not later than April 1, 1997, the commissioner  
43 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, in order to

44 carry out the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this  
45 section.

46 (c) Within a time period determined by the commissioner to ensure  
47 the availability of funds for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1997, to the  
48 regional public safety emergency telecommunications centers within  
49 the state, and not later than April first of each year thereafter, the  
50 commissioner shall determine the amount of funding needed for the  
51 development and administration of the enhanced emergency 9-1-1  
52 program. The commissioner shall specify the expenses associated with  
53 (1) the purchase, installation and maintenance of new public safety  
54 answering point terminal equipment, (2) the implementation of the  
55 subsidy program, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of  
56 this section, (3) the implementation of the transition grant program,  
57 described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, (4) the  
58 implementation of the regional emergency telecommunications service  
59 credit, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section,  
60 provided, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal year  
61 thereafter, such credit for coordinated medical emergency direction  
62 services as provided in regulations adopted under this section shall be  
63 based upon the factor of [~~fifteen~~] thirty cents per capita and shall not  
64 be reduced each year, (5) the training of personnel, as necessary, (6)  
65 recurring expenses and future capital costs associated with the  
66 telecommunications network used to provide emergency 9-1-1 service  
67 and the public safety services data networks, (7) for the fiscal year  
68 ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal year thereafter, the collection,  
69 maintenance and reporting of emergency medical services data, as  
70 required under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (8) of section  
71 19a-177, provided the amount of expenses specified under this  
72 subdivision shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars in any  
73 fiscal year, (8) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal  
74 year thereafter, the initial training of emergency medical dispatch  
75 personnel, the provision of an emergency medical dispatch priority  
76 reference card set and emergency medical dispatch training and  
77 continuing education pursuant to subdivisions (3) and (4) of  
78 subsection (g) of section 28-25b, and (9) the administration of the



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:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 06 \$</b>	<b>FY 07 \$</b>
Public Safety, Dept.	Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund - Cost	Approximately \$4.1 million	Approximately \$4.1 million
Public Safety, Dept.	Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund - Revenue Gain	Approximately \$.5 million	Approximately \$1.0 million

**Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill increases the number of municipalities who are eligible for the enhanced 9-1-1 subsidy. Municipalities with populations in excess of forty thousand will now be eligible for the subsidy. This change grants fourteen additional municipalities access to the funding. The cost of funding for the additional municipalities is anticipated to be \$1,058,657 in FY 06 and \$1,117,830 in FY 07.

The bill also changes the per capita cost factor for the coordinated medical emergency direction services from fifteen cents to thirty cents. The increase in the per capita cost will be absorbed by phone users. The increase in per capita cost is anticipated to bring an additional \$522,508 in revenue to the Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund in FY 06 and \$1,045,017 in FY 07.

The bill adds public safety services data networks as an additional item the Commissioner of Public Safety must budget for. The public safety services data networks are anticipated to cost \$3.0 million in both FY 06 and FY 07. In future years, the data networks will require additional funds for operating expenses, maintenance, and upgrades.

In order to off set the costs incurred by the addition of the public safety services data network, the Department of Public Utility Control will hold a public hearing in May 2005, where they will be seeking an increase of the 9-1-1 surcharge, to forty cents.

In addition to the increased 9-1-1 surcharge, the balance in the Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund will cover the additional costs of the network. The current balance in the fund is approximately \$6.0 million, with \$2.5 million encumbered for purposes of upgrading equipment at the 107 state wide 9-1-1 answering points.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 1276

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE E 9-1-1 COMMISSION****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases (1) the number of towns eligible for enhanced subsidies under the enhanced 9-1-1 (E 9-1-1) program and (2) funding under two other components of this program. Funding for the program comes from a surcharge on telecommunications bills.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2005

**E 9-1-1 SUBSIDIES*****Enhanced Subsidies***

The bill lowers the population threshold for enhanced 9-1-1- subsidies. Under current law, the public safety commissioner must subsidize public safety emergency telecommunications centers, with enhanced subsidies to towns with more than 70,000 people. The bill adds towns with a population of 40,000 to 70,000—Bristol, East Hartford, Enfield, Fairfield, Greenwich, Hamden, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Stratford, Wallingford, West Hartford, and West Haven.

***Emergency Telecommunications Service Credit***

By law, the regional emergency telecommunication service credit supports regional dispatch services. Under current law, the credit for coordinated medical emergency dispatch services is based on a factor of 15 cents per capita and cannot be reduced each year. The bill bases the service credit on a factor of 30 cents per capita.

***Public Safety Services Data Networks***

The bill also requires the commissioner, in determining the funding needed to develop and administer the various components of the E 9-1-1 system, to include the recurring expenses and future capital costs associated with public safety services data networks. By law, the

commissioner must already specify a range of expenses for the various components of the system. These include:

1. purchasing and maintaining new public safety answering point terminal equipment,
2. subsidizing regional public safety emergency centers,
3. establishing a transition grant program to encourage regionalization of public safety communication,
4. necessary personnel training,
5. office administrative expenses, and
6. recurring expenses and future capital costs of the telecommunications network used to provide E 9-1-1 services.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference  
Yea 22 Nay 0

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Report  
Yea 18 Nay 0