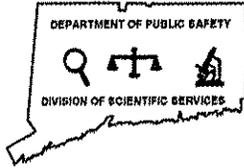


STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER



John A. Danaher III  
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henton  
Chief of Staff

March 4, 2010

Rep. Stephen Dargan, Co-Chairman  
Sen. Andrea Stillman, Co-Chairman  
Public Safety and Security Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

**SB 312 AN ACT MANDATING THE REGIONALIZATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATION CENTERS**

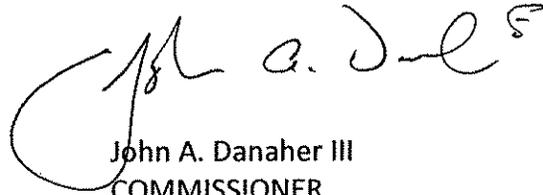
***The Department of Public Safety advises committee of factors to be included in consideration of bill.***

The Department of Public Safety supports the public policy goals attained through the regionalization of 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points. However, there are two factors the committee may wish to consider concerning the present language of the bill.

Currently, municipalities whose populations are more than 40,000 and which utilize a single PSAP for all services ("funded municipalities") receive funding from the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications ("OSET") using formulas comparable to that for regional centers. The justification for this is that the state's goals are being met, since the funded municipalities are realizing the efficiencies of regionalization due simply to their size. The proposed bill would have the effect of penalizing every funded municipality, unless they attract two other municipalities to join their center. Hartford, New Haven, Stamford, Waterbury, Bridgeport and West Haven are among the cities affected. There are a total of 22 funded municipalities.

Also, if the bill becomes law, it will have a significant effect on the OSET budget, which is funded entirely from the 9-1-1 surcharge on phone bills. The amount of the surcharge is set by the Department of Public Utility Control, but is subject to a statutory cap. The statutory cap is 50 cents and the current approved DPUC charge is 47 cents. There is no flexibility to allow for significant new obligations for the 911 fund.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Danaher III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "D".

John A. Danaher III  
COMMISSIONER