



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 312**

February Session, 2010

\* SB00312PS 030910 \*

**AN ACT MANDATING THE REGIONALIZATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATION CENTERS AND A STUDY OF CONSOLIDATION.**

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 Section 28-24 of the general statutes is repealed and the  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 October 1, 2010*):

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 services,  
17 and in accordance with regulations adopted by the Commissioner of

18 Public Safety pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, develop and  
19 administer, by July 1, 1997, an enhanced emergency 9-1-1 program,  
20 which shall provide for: (A) The replacement of existing 9-1-1 terminal  
21 equipment for each public safety answering point, provided, on or  
22 after July 1, 2016, such answering point is part of a regional public  
23 safety emergency telecommunications center; (B) the subsidization of  
24 regional public safety emergency telecommunications centers, with  
25 enhanced subsidization for municipalities with a population in excess  
26 of forty thousand; (C) the establishment of a transition grant program  
27 to encourage regionalization of public safety telecommunications  
28 centers; and (D) the establishment of a regional emergency  
29 telecommunications service credit in order to support regional  
30 dispatch services;

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

33 (4) Provide frequency coordination for such agencies;

34 (5) Coordinate and assist in state-wide planning for 9-1-1 and E 9-1-  
35 1 systems;

36 (6) Review and make recommendations concerning proposed  
37 legislation affecting emergency service telecommunications; and

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

40 (b) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall adopt regulations, in  
41 accordance with chapter 54, establishing eligibility standards for state  
42 financial assistance to local or regional police, fire and emergency  
43 medical service agencies providing emergency service  
44 telecommunications. Not later than April 1, 1997, the commissioner  
45 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, in order to  
46 carry out the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this  
47 section.

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

83 determines to be reasonably necessary. The commissioner shall  
84 communicate the commissioner's findings to the chairperson of the  
85 Public Utilities Control Authority not later than April first of each year.

86 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year  
87 thereafter, any municipality that has not joined with two or more other  
88 municipalities to form a regional emergency telecommunications  
89 center shall not be eligible to receive any funds pursuant to this  
90 section.

91 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The office may apply for, receive and distribute any federal  
92 funds available for emergency service telecommunications. The office  
93 shall deposit such federal funds in the Enhanced 9-1-1  
94 Telecommunications Fund established by section 28-30a, as amended  
95 by this act.

96 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) The office shall work in cooperation with the Department of  
97 Public Utility Control to carry out the purposes of this section.

98 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 28-30a of the general statutes is  
99 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
100 *October 1, 2010*):

101 (a) There is established a fund to be known as the "Enhanced 9-1-1  
102 Telecommunications Fund". The fund shall contain any moneys  
103 required by law to be deposited in the fund, including, but not limited  
104 to, any federal funds collected pursuant to subsection ~~[(d)]~~ (e) of  
105 section 28-24, as amended by this act, and fees assessed against  
106 subscribers of local telephone service and subscribers of commercial  
107 mobile radio services, pursuant to section 16-256g. The Enhanced 9-1-1  
108 Telecommunications Fund shall be held separate and apart from all  
109 other moneys, funds and accounts. Interest derived from the  
110 investment of the fund shall be credited to the assets of the fund. Any  
111 balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be  
112 carried forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding.

113 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Office of State-Wide Emergency

114 Telecommunications shall conduct a study to determine the optimal  
115 arrangement of public safety answering points, including, but not  
116 limited to, which number of answering points would achieve the most  
117 cost-effective and efficient use of resources, which answering points  
118 should be consolidated, what consolidation of police, fire, emergency  
119 medical services and any related services is necessary and any and all  
120 costs associated with all aspects of consolidation, including municipal  
121 and state costs. Such study shall be paid for out of the Enhanced 9-1-1  
122 Telecommunications Fund.

123 (b) The Office of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications shall,  
124 not later than July 1, 2011, submit a report containing the findings of  
125 said study to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
126 having cognizance of matters relating to public safety, in accordance  
127 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	28-24
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	28-30a(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**PS**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*