



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

**Committee Bill No. 6334**

LCO No. 5048



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:  
(PD)

**AN ACT MANDATING THE REGIONALIZATION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS 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 Section 28-24 of the general statutes is repealed and the  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, 2013*):

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

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

14 (2) Pursuant to the recommendations of the task force established by

15 public act 95-318 to study enhanced 9-1-1 telecommunications services,  
16 and in accordance with regulations adopted by the Commissioner of  
17 Emergency Services and Public Protection pursuant to subsection (b)  
18 of this section, develop and administer, by July 1, 1997, an enhanced  
19 emergency 9-1-1 program, which shall provide for: (A) The  
20 replacement of existing 9-1-1 terminal equipment for each public safety  
21 answering point, provided, on or after July 1, 2019, if such answering  
22 point is located in a municipality with a population of forty thousand  
23 or less, such answering point is part of a regional public safety  
24 emergency telecommunications center; (B) the subsidization of  
25 regional public safety emergency telecommunications centers, with  
26 enhanced subsidization for municipalities with a population in excess  
27 of forty thousand; (C) the establishment of a transition grant program  
28 to encourage regionalization of public safety telecommunications  
29 centers; and (D) the establishment of a regional emergency  
30 telecommunications service credit in order to support regional  
31 dispatch services;

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

34 (4) Provide frequency coordination for such agencies;

35 (5) Coordinate and assist in state-wide planning for 9-1-1 and E 9-1-  
36 1 systems;

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

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

41 (8) On or before January first of each year, prepare the annual  
42 budget for the use of funds from the Enhanced 9-1-1  
43 Telecommunications Fund and submit such budget to the Secretary of  
44 the Office of Policy and Management for the secretary's review and  
45 approval. On or before January fifteenth of each year, said secretary

46 shall submit a report concerning the proposed use of such funds to the  
47 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance  
48 of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,  
49 finance, revenue and bonding, and public safety in accordance with  
50 the provisions of section 11-4a.

51 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection  
52 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, establishing  
53 eligibility standards for state financial assistance to local or regional  
54 police, fire and emergency medical service agencies providing  
55 emergency service telecommunications. Not later than April 1, 1997,  
56 the commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter  
57 54, in order to carry out the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection  
58 (a) of this section.

59 (c) Within a time period determined by the commissioner to ensure  
60 the availability of funds for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1997, to the  
61 regional public safety emergency telecommunications centers within  
62 the state, and not later than April first of each year thereafter, the  
63 commissioner shall determine the amount of funding needed for the  
64 development and administration of the enhanced emergency 9-1-1  
65 program. The commissioner shall specify the expenses associated with  
66 (1) the purchase, installation and maintenance of new public safety  
67 answering point terminal equipment, (2) the implementation of the  
68 subsidy program, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of  
69 this section, (3) the implementation of the transition grant program,  
70 described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, (4) the  
71 implementation of the regional emergency telecommunications service  
72 credit, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section,  
73 provided, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal year  
74 thereafter, such credit for coordinated medical emergency direction  
75 services as provided in regulations adopted under this section shall be  
76 based upon the factor of thirty cents per capita and shall not be  
77 reduced each year, (5) the training of personnel, as necessary, (6)  
78 recurring expenses and future capital costs associated with the

79 telecommunications network used to provide emergency 9-1-1 service  
80 and the public safety services data networks, (7) for the fiscal year  
81 ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal year thereafter, the collection,  
82 maintenance and reporting of emergency medical services data, as  
83 required under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (8) of section 19a-177,  
84 provided the amount of expenses specified under this subdivision  
85 shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars in any fiscal year,  
86 (8) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal year  
87 thereafter, the initial training of emergency medical dispatch  
88 personnel, the provision of an emergency medical dispatch priority  
89 reference card set and emergency medical dispatch training and  
90 continuing education pursuant to subdivisions (3) and (4) of  
91 subsection (g) of section 28-25b, (9) the administration of the enhanced  
92 emergency 9-1-1 program by the Office of State-Wide Emergency  
93 Telecommunications, as the commissioner determines to be reasonably  
94 necessary, and (10) the implementation and maintenance of the public  
95 safety data network established pursuant to section 29-1j. The  
96 commissioner shall communicate the commissioner's findings to the  
97 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority not later than April first of each  
98 year.

99 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and each fiscal year  
100 thereafter, any municipality with a population of forty thousand or  
101 less that has not joined with two or more municipalities to form a  
102 regional emergency telecommunications center shall not be eligible to  
103 receive any funds pursuant to this section.

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

109 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) The office shall work in cooperation with the Public Utilities  
110 Regulatory Authority to carry out the purposes of this section.

111 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 28-30a of the general statutes is  
112 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
113 *October 1, 2013*):

114 (a) There is established a fund to be known as the "Enhanced 9-1-1  
115 Telecommunications Fund". The fund shall contain any moneys  
116 required by law to be deposited in the fund, including, but not limited  
117 to, any federal funds collected pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of  
118 section 28-24, as amended by this act, and fees assessed against  
119 subscribers of local telephone service, subscribers of commercial  
120 mobile radio services pursuant to section 16-256g and revenues from  
121 the prepaid wireless E 9-1-1 fee imposed pursuant to section 28-30e.  
122 The Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund shall be held separate  
123 and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Interest derived  
124 from the investment of the fund shall be credited to the assets of the  
125 fund. Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year  
126 shall be carried forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding.

127 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) The Office of State-Wide Emergency  
128 Telecommunications shall conduct a study to determine a range of  
129 feasible arrangements of public safety answering points, including, but  
130 not limited to: (1) What number of answering points would achieve a  
131 balance between cost-effectiveness, operational efficiency and efficient  
132 use of new and existing resources; (2) which answering points could be  
133 consolidated, after considering cost, efficiencies, and natural or  
134 selected operational groupings; (3) what further consolidation of  
135 police, fire and emergency medical dispatching services and any  
136 related services is recommended; and (4) any and all costs associated  
137 with all aspects of and various options for consolidation, including  
138 municipal and state costs. Such study shall be paid for out of the  
139 Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund.

140 (b) The Office of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications shall,  
141 not later than July 1, 2017, submit a report containing the findings of  
142 said study to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
143 having cognizance of matters relating to municipalities and public

144 safety, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
145 statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	28-24
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	28-30a(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**PD**      *Joint Favorable*