



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

***Raised Bill No. 5544***

LCO No. 2100



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:  
(PS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
ANSWERING POINTS.***

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 Section 28-24 of the general statutes is repealed and the  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 January 1, 2018*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this section:

4 (1) "Regional emergency telecommunications center" means any  
5 entity authorized by the Department of Emergency Services and Public  
6 Protection as a public safety answering point that is responsible for  
7 receiving and processing 9-1-1 calls for at least three municipalities,  
8 and either serves a combined population of forty thousand or more, as  
9 determined by the most recent population estimate by the Department  
10 of Public Health, or receives and processes twelve thousand or more 9-  
11 1-1 calls on an annual basis;

12 (2) "Multitown public safety answering point" means any entity  
13 authorized by the Department of Emergency Services and Public

14 Protection as a public safety answering point that is responsible for  
15 receiving and processing 9-1-1 calls for two municipalities and either  
16 serves a combined population of forty thousand or more, as  
17 determined by the most recent population estimate by the Department  
18 of Public Health, or receives and processes twelve thousand or more 9-  
19 1-1 calls on an annual basis;

20 (3) "9-1-1 call" means a voice, text message, video or image  
21 communication that is routed to a public safety answering point by  
22 dialing or otherwise accessing the digits "9-1-1"; and

23 (4) "Public safety answering point" has the same meaning as  
24 provided in section 28-25.

25 [(a)] (b) There is established an Office of State-Wide Emergency  
26 Telecommunications which shall be within the Department of  
27 Emergency Services and Public Protection. The Office of State-Wide  
28 Emergency Telecommunications shall be responsible for developing  
29 and maintaining a state-wide emergency service telecommunications  
30 policy. In connection with said policy, the office shall:

31 (1) Develop a state-wide emergency service telecommunications  
32 plan specifying emergency police, fire and medical service  
33 telecommunications systems needed to provide coordinated  
34 emergency service telecommunications to all state residents, including  
35 the physically disabled;

36 (2) [Pursuant to the recommendations of the task force established  
37 by public act 95-318 to study enhanced 9-1-1 telecommunications  
38 services, and in accordance with regulations adopted by the  
39 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection pursuant  
40 to subsection (b) of this section, develop] Develop and administer [, by  
41 July 1, 1997,] an enhanced emergency 9-1-1 program, which shall  
42 provide for: (A) The replacement of existing 9-1-1 terminal equipment  
43 for each public safety answering point, provided, if such public safety  
44 answering point serves a population of less than forty thousand or

45 receives and processes less than twelve thousand 9-1-1 calls on an  
46 annual basis, such public safety answering point complies with the  
47 provisions of subsection (g) of this section; (B) the subsidization of  
48 regional [public safety] emergency telecommunications centers and  
49 multitown public safety answering points, with enhanced  
50 subsidization for municipalities with a population [in excess] of forty  
51 thousand or more; (C) the establishment of a transition grant program  
52 to encourage regionalization of public safety [telecommunications  
53 centers] answering points; and (D) the establishment of a regional  
54 emergency telecommunications service credit in order to support  
55 regional dispatch services;

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

58 (4) Provide frequency coordination for such agencies;

59 (5) Coordinate and assist in state-wide planning for 9-1-1 and E 9-1-  
60 1 systems;

61 (6) Review and make recommendations concerning proposed  
62 legislation affecting emergency service telecommunications;

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

65 (8) On or before January first of each year, prepare the annual  
66 budget for the use of funds from the Enhanced 9-1-1  
67 Telecommunications Fund and submit such budget to the Secretary of  
68 the Office of Policy and Management for the secretary's review and  
69 approval. On or before January fifteenth of each year, said secretary  
70 shall submit a report concerning the proposed use of such funds to the  
71 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance  
72 of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,  
73 finance, revenue and bonding, and public safety in accordance with  
74 the provisions of section 11-4a.

75        [(b)] (c) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public  
76 Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54,  
77 establishing eligibility standards for state financial assistance to local  
78 or regional police, fire and emergency medical service agencies  
79 providing emergency service telecommunications. Not later than April  
80 1, 1997, the commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
81 chapter 54, in order to carry out the provisions of subdivision (2) of  
82 subsection [(a)] (b) of this section.

83        [(c)] (d) Within a time period determined by the commissioner to  
84 ensure the availability of funds for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
85 1997, to the regional public safety emergency telecommunications  
86 centers within the state, and not later than April first of each year  
87 thereafter, the commissioner shall determine the amount of funding  
88 needed for the development and administration of the enhanced  
89 emergency 9-1-1 program. The commissioner shall specify the  
90 expenses associated with (1) the purchase, installation and  
91 maintenance of new public safety answering point terminal  
92 equipment, (2) the implementation of the subsidy program, as  
93 described in subdivision (2) of subsection [(a)] (b) of this section, (3)  
94 the implementation of the transition grant program, described in  
95 subdivision (2) of subsection [(a)] (b) of this section, (4) the  
96 implementation of the regional emergency telecommunications service  
97 credit, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection [(a)] (b) of this  
98 section, provided, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and each  
99 fiscal year thereafter, such credit for coordinated medical emergency  
100 direction services as provided in regulations adopted under this  
101 section shall be based upon the factor of thirty cents per capita and  
102 shall not be reduced each year, (5) the training of personnel, as  
103 necessary, (6) recurring expenses and future capital costs associated  
104 with the telecommunications network used to provide emergency 9-1-  
105 1 service and the public safety services data networks, (7) for the fiscal  
106 year ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal year thereafter, the  
107 collection, maintenance and reporting of emergency medical services

108 data, as required under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (8) of section  
109 19a-177, provided the amount of expenses specified under this  
110 subdivision shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars in any  
111 fiscal year, (8) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and each fiscal  
112 year thereafter, the initial training of emergency medical dispatch  
113 personnel, the provision of an emergency medical dispatch priority  
114 reference card set and emergency medical dispatch training and  
115 continuing education pursuant to subdivisions (3) and (4) of  
116 subsection (g) of section 28-25b, (9) the administration of the enhanced  
117 emergency 9-1-1 program by the Office of State-Wide Emergency  
118 Telecommunications, as the commissioner determines to be reasonably  
119 necessary, and (10) the implementation and maintenance of the public  
120 safety data network established pursuant to section 29-1j. The  
121 commissioner shall communicate the commissioner's findings to the  
122 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority not later than April first of each  
123 year.

124 (e) If a public safety answering point serves a population of less  
125 than forty thousand or receives and processes less than twelve  
126 thousand 9-1-1 calls on an annual basis, such public safety answering  
127 point shall provide written notice to the office, on or before July 1,  
128 2018, stating the intention of such public safety answering point to (1)  
129 become part of a regional emergency telecommunications center by  
130 July 1, 2020, (2) become part of a multitown public safety answering  
131 point by July 1, 2020, or (3) remain a public safety answering point that  
132 serves a population of less than forty thousand or receives and  
133 processes less than twelve thousand 9-1-1 calls on an annual basis. If  
134 such public safety answering point intends to become part of a  
135 regional emergency telecommunications center or part of a multitown  
136 public safety answering point, the written notice shall identify the  
137 intended public safety answering point partner or partners.

138 (f) For the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, and each fiscal year  
139 thereafter, any public safety answering point that serves a population  
140 of less than forty thousand or receives and processes less than twelve

141 thousand 9-1-1 calls on an annual basis that is not part of a regional  
142 emergency telecommunications center or part of a multitown public  
143 safety answering point shall not be eligible to receive any funds  
144 pursuant to this section.

145 (g) (1) If a public safety answering point serves a population of less  
146 than forty thousand or receives and processes less than twelve  
147 thousand 9-1-1 calls on an annual basis on or after July 1, 2020, such  
148 public safety answering point shall reimburse the office for expenses  
149 the office incurs as a result of supporting and maintaining such public  
150 safety answering point. Such reimbursement shall include, but not be  
151 limited to, (A) the cost of replacing and maintaining 9-1-1 terminal  
152 equipment, system infrastructure and network infrastructure, and (B)  
153 the costs associated with training and certifying telecommunicators, as  
154 defined in section 28-30, the initial training of emergency medical  
155 dispatch personnel, the emergency medical dispatch priority reference  
156 card set and emergency medical dispatch training and continuing  
157 education pursuant to subdivisions (3) and (4) of subsection (g) of  
158 section 28-25b. Such public safety answering point shall only receive 9-  
159 1-1 terminal equipment, maintenance, training and certification as  
160 provided or approved by the office.

161 (2) The office shall, not later than thirty days after receiving any  
162 moneys pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, deposit such  
163 moneys in the Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund, established  
164 pursuant to section 28-30a, as amended by this act.

165 [(d)] (h) The office may apply for, receive and distribute any federal  
166 funds available for emergency service telecommunications. The office  
167 shall deposit such federal funds in the Enhanced 9-1-1  
168 Telecommunications Fund, established [by] pursuant to section 28-30a,  
169 as amended by this act.

170 [(e)] (i) The office shall work in cooperation with the Public Utilities  
171 Regulatory Authority to carry out the purposes of this section.

172 Sec. 2. Section 28-30a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
173 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2018*):

174 (a) There is established a fund to be known as the "Enhanced 9-1-1  
175 Telecommunications Fund". The fund shall contain any moneys  
176 required by law to be deposited in the fund, including, but not limited  
177 to, any federal funds collected pursuant to subsection [(d)] (h) of  
178 section 28-24, as amended by this act, fees assessed against subscribers  
179 of local telephone service and subscribers of commercial mobile radio  
180 services pursuant to section 16-256g, as amended by this act, and  
181 prepaid wireless E 9-1-1 fees collected pursuant to section 28-30e. The  
182 Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund shall be held separate and  
183 apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Interest derived from  
184 the investment of the fund shall be credited to the assets of the fund.  
185 Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be  
186 carried forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding.

187 (b) The State Treasurer, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
188 Office of Policy and Management, shall invest the moneys deposited in  
189 the Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund in the Short-Term  
190 Investment Fund authorized under section 3-27a or investments in  
191 which the Treasurer may invest assets of the trust funds which are  
192 listed in section 3-13c.

193 (c) The resources of the Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund  
194 shall be used solely to fund the expenses, as determined by the  
195 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in  
196 accordance with subsection [(c)] (d) of section 28-24, as amended by  
197 this act, associated with the enhanced emergency 9-1-1 program. Any  
198 surplus shall be carried forward to successive fiscal years and used for  
199 the sole purpose of administering the enhanced emergency 9-1-1  
200 program.

201 Sec. 3. Section 4-124s of the general statutes is repealed and the  
202 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

203 (a) For purposes of this section:

204 (1) "Regional council of governments" means any such council  
205 organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;

206 (2) "Municipality" means a town, city or consolidated town and  
207 borough;

208 (3) "Legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council,  
209 city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of  
210 representatives or board of the warden and burgesses of a  
211 municipality; [and]

212 (4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
213 Management or the designee of the secretary; [.]

214 (5) "Regional emergency telecommunications center" means any  
215 entity authorized by the Department of Emergency Services and Public  
216 Protection as a public safety answering point that is responsible for  
217 receiving and processing 9-1-1 calls for at least three municipalities  
218 and serves a combined population of forty thousand or more, as  
219 determined by the most recent population estimate by the Department  
220 of Public Health;

221 (6) "Multitown public safety answering point" means any entity  
222 authorized by the Department of Emergency Services and Public  
223 Protection as a public safety answering point that is responsible for  
224 receiving and processing 9-1-1 calls for two municipalities and serves a  
225 combined population of forty thousand or more, as determined by the  
226 most recent population estimate by the Department of Public Health;  
227 and

228 (7) "Public safety answering point" has the same meaning as  
229 provided in section 28-25.

230 (b) There is established a regional performance incentive program  
231 that shall be administered by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and

232 Management. On or before December 31, 2011, and annually  
233 thereafter, any regional council of governments, any two or more  
234 municipalities acting through a regional council of governments, any  
235 economic development district or any combination thereof may submit  
236 a proposal to the secretary for: (1) The joint provision of any service  
237 that one or more participating municipalities of such council or agency  
238 currently provide but which is not provided on a regional basis, (2) a  
239 planning study regarding the joint provision of any service on a  
240 regional basis, or (3) shared information technology services. A copy of  
241 said proposal shall be sent to the legislators representing said  
242 participating municipalities.

243 (c) (1) A regional council of governments or an economic  
244 development district shall submit each proposal in the form and  
245 manner the secretary prescribes and shall, at a minimum, provide the  
246 following information for each proposal: (A) Service description; (B)  
247 the explanation of the need for such service; (C) the method of  
248 delivering such service on a regional basis; (D) the organization that  
249 would be responsible for regional service delivery; (E) a description of  
250 the population that would be served; (F) the manner in which regional  
251 service delivery will achieve economies of scale; (G) the amount by  
252 which participating municipalities will reduce their mill rates as a  
253 result of savings realized; (H) a cost benefit analysis for the provision  
254 of the service by each participating municipality and by the entity  
255 submitting the proposal; (I) a plan of implementation for delivery of  
256 the service on a regional basis; (J) a resolution endorsing such proposal  
257 approved by the legislative body of each participating municipality;  
258 and (K) an explanation of the potential legal obstacles, if any, to the  
259 regional provision of the service.

260 (2) The secretary shall review each proposal and shall award grants  
261 for proposals the secretary determines best meet the requirements of  
262 this section. In awarding such grants, the secretary shall give priority  
263 to a proposal submitted by (A) any entity specified in subsection (a) of  
264 this section that includes participation of all of the member

265 municipalities of such entity, and which may increase the purchasing  
266 power of participating municipalities or provide a cost savings  
267 initiative resulting in a decrease in expenses of such municipalities,  
268 allowing such municipalities to lower property taxes, and (B) any  
269 economic development district.

270 (d) On or before December 31, 2013, and annually thereafter, in  
271 addition to any proposal submitted pursuant to this section, any  
272 municipality or regional council of governments may apply to the  
273 secretary for a grant to fund: (1) Operating costs associated with  
274 connecting to the state-wide high speed, flexible network developed  
275 pursuant to section 4d-80, including the costs to connect at the same  
276 rate as other government entities served by such network; and (2)  
277 capital cost associated with connecting to such network, including  
278 expenses associated with building out the internal fiber network  
279 connections required to connect to such network, provided the  
280 secretary shall make any such grant available in accordance with the  
281 two-year schedule by which the Bureau of Enterprise Systems and  
282 Technology recommends connecting each municipality and regional  
283 council of governments to such network. Any municipality or regional  
284 council of governments shall submit each application in the form and  
285 manner the secretary prescribes.

286 (e) On or before December 31, 2016, and annually thereafter, any  
287 two or more municipalities establishing a regional emergency  
288 telecommunications center or multitown public safety answering point  
289 may apply to the secretary for a grant to fund operating costs  
290 associated with transitioning an existing public safety answering point  
291 to a regional emergency telecommunications center or multitown  
292 public safety answering point. Such municipalities shall submit such  
293 application in such form and manner as the secretary prescribes.

294 [(e)] (f) The secretary shall submit to the Governor and the joint  
295 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
296 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding a report on the grants

297 provided pursuant to this section. Each such report shall include  
298 information on the amount of each grant, and the potential of each  
299 grant for leveraging other public and private investments. The  
300 secretary shall submit a report for the fiscal year commencing July 1,  
301 2011, not later than February 1, 2012, and shall submit a report for each  
302 subsequent fiscal year not later than the first day of March in such  
303 fiscal year. Such reports shall include the property tax reductions  
304 achieved by means of the program established pursuant to this section.

305 Sec. 4. Section 7-478a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
306 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

307 (a) Two or more municipal employers participating in an interlocal  
308 agreement pursuant to sections 7-339a to 7-339l, inclusive, or  
309 undertaking the joint performance of emergency service  
310 telecommunications as a regional emergency telecommunications  
311 center or a multitown public safety answering point, as those terms are  
312 defined in section 28-24, as amended by this act, shall constitute a  
313 municipal employer as defined in section 7-467.

314 (b) Each employee organization, as defined in said section 7-467, of  
315 the municipal employers constituting a municipal employer under this  
316 section shall retain representation rights for collective bargaining. If  
317 two or more employee organizations have representation rights, the  
318 employee organizations shall act in coalition for all collective  
319 bargaining purposes.

320 (c) When a municipal employer is constituted under this section the  
321 collective bargaining agreement of each employee organization with  
322 representation rights shall remain in effect. A decision by a municipal  
323 employer to enter into or implement an interlocal agreement under  
324 sections 7-339a to 7-339l, inclusive, or to undertake the joint  
325 performance of emergency service telecommunications as a regional  
326 emergency telecommunications center or a multitown public safety  
327 answering point, as those terms are defined in section 28-24, as

328 amended by this act, shall not be a subject of collective bargaining but  
 329 the impact of such agreement upon wages, hours and other conditions  
 330 of employment, shall be a subject of collective bargaining.

331 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 16-256g of the general statutes is  
 332 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
 333 *January 1, 2018*):

334 (a) By June first of each year, the Public Utilities Regulatory  
 335 Authority shall conduct a proceeding to determine the amount of the  
 336 monthly fee to be assessed against each subscriber of: (1) Local  
 337 telephone service, (2) commercial mobile radio service, as defined in 47  
 338 CFR Section 20.3, and (3) voice over Internet protocol service, as  
 339 defined in section 28-30b, to fund the development and administration  
 340 of the enhanced emergency 9-1-1 program. The authority shall base  
 341 such fee on the findings of the Commissioner of Emergency Services  
 342 and Public Protection, pursuant to subsection [(c)] (d) of section 28-24,  
 343 as amended by this act, taking into consideration any existing moneys  
 344 available in the Enhanced 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fund. The  
 345 authority shall consider the progressive wire line inclusion schedule  
 346 contained in the final report of the task force to study enhanced 9-1-1  
 347 telecommunications services established by public act 95-318\*. The  
 348 authority shall not approve any fee (A) greater than seventy-five cents  
 349 per month per access line, (B) that does not include the progressive  
 350 wire line inclusion schedule, or (C) for commercial mobile radio  
 351 service, as defined in 47 CFR Section 20.3 that includes the progressive  
 352 wire line inclusion schedule.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	28-24
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	28-30a
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	4-124s
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	7-478a
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	16-256g(a)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To provide incentives for public safety answering points to consolidate.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*