



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 5321

LCO No. 2023



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
ANSWERING POINT CONSOLIDATION.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to develop a strategy to consolidate public safety answering points
3 across the state. The task force shall examine the current system of
4 public safety answering points in the state and make recommendations
5 for consolidating such answering points while prioritizing the need to
6 ensure public safety. In developing the strategy, the task force shall
7 consider and make recommendations regarding:

8 (1) Issues that may arise in municipalities that would no longer have
9 an individual physically located within the municipality to act as a
10 dispatcher at all times after consolidation;

11 (2) Issues that may arise when a municipality, that relies on a public
12 safety answering point to monitor prisoners, no longer has a public
13 safety answering point located in the municipality after consolidation;

14 (3) Ways to enhance the skills of telecommunicators, as defined in

15 section 28-30 of the general statutes, and personnel providing
16 emergency medical dispatch, as defined in section 28-25 of the general
17 statutes, including recommendations regarding training standards and
18 performance accountability;

19 (4) Any challenges to consolidation presented by existing collective
20 bargaining agreements;

21 (5) The governance structure for regional public safety answering
22 points;

23 (6) Methods for transferring technology and equipment among
24 consolidated public safety answering points;

25 (7) Recommended timeframes for consolidation; and

26 (8) Any other issues the task force deems appropriate.

27 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

28 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
29 one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Conference of
30 Municipalities and one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut
31 Council of Small Towns;

32 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
33 whom is a representative of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association
34 and one of whom is a representative of the Uniformed Professional Fire
35 Fighters Association of Connecticut;

36 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
37 Representatives, who is a representative of the Connecticut EMS
38 Advisory Board;

39 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a
40 representative of the Managers of Emergency Communication Centers
41 Association;

42 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of

43 Representatives, who is a representative of the Connecticut Fire Chiefs
44 Association;

45 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

46 (7) The commanding officer of the Division of State Police within the
47 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the
48 commanding officer's designee;

49 (8) The director of the Division of State-Wide Emergency
50 Telecommunications within the Department of Emergency Services and
51 Public Protection, or the director's designee; and

52 (9) The undersecretary of the Intergovernmental Policy and Planning
53 Division within the Office of Policy and Management, or the
54 undersecretary's designee.

55 (c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
56 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
57 be filled by the appointing authority.

58 (d) The members of the task force shall elect a chairperson of the task
59 force from among the members of the task force. The director of the
60 Division of State-Wide Emergency Telecommunications shall schedule
61 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
62 days after the effective date of this section.

63 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
64 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety
65 and security shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

66 (f) (1) Not later than January 1, 2021, the task force shall submit a
67 report on its findings, recommendations and strategy to the joint
68 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
69 matters relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the
70 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

71 (2) Not later than thirty days after the receiving the report under

72 subdivision (1) of this subsection, the committee shall hold a hearing
73 and may vote to accept the report or instruct the task force to continue
74 meeting and submit a revised report.

75 (3) If the committee instructs the task force to continue meeting, the
76 task force shall submit a revised report to the committee, in accordance
77 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, not later than
78 sixty days after the committee's vote to require a revised report.

79 (4) The task force shall terminate (A) on the date the committee
80 accepts the task force's report, (B) thirty days after the date the report is
81 filed with the committee under subdivision (1) of this subsection, if the
82 committee takes no action on the report, or (C) the date the task force
83 submits a revised report under subdivision (3) of this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a task force to study and make recommendations on public safety answering point consolidation.

[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.]