



Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness

Senator Randy Vulakovich, Chairman

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Vulakovich Amendment Summary A01828

Definitions:

Removes several unused definitions of “Communication Provider,” “Next Generation 911 or NG 911,” “Successor Service,” “Work Space,” and “PA STARNET.”

Fund Distribution:

Makes changes to the funding distribution: 2% for PEMA for administration, 15% for PEMA for Statewide Project and Interconnectivity, 3% distributed equally to all counties, 80% to be distributed by PEMA though a formula to be determined by PEMA in consultation with the Board – at least 30% of this will be based on population.

VoIP:

Clarifies that Voice Over the Internet Protocol (VoIP) lines are to be charged at the established rate per telephone number.

Strategic Planning:

Requires PEMA in consultation with the Board to develop a comprehensive plan for a statewide interconnected 911 and emergency services communications system.

County Accountability:

Stipulates that a county adopt a resolution to opt into the funding from the Commonwealth.

Allentown & Bethlehem:

Funds the Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in Allentown and Bethlehem will be added back in to the bill, expiring at the sunset of the bill. All funds for Allentown and Bethlehem will be distributed through the counties.

Board:

Creates a Board composed of voting and non-voting members:

Voting:

Executive Agency Representation:

Director of PEMA

The State 911 Coordinator

The Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police

General Assembly Representation:

The Majority Chairmen of the Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

The Minority Chairmen of the Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

The Majority Chairmen of the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

The Minority Chairmen of the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

Local Representation:

The Mayor of a City of the First Class or Designee

A County Commissioner or Home Rule Equivalent of a County of the Second Class

A County Commissioner or Home Rule Equivalent of a County of the Second Class A

A County Commissioner or Home Rule Equivalent of a County of the Third or Fourth Class

Two County Commissioners or Home Rule Equivalent of a County of the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, or Eight Class

Professional Representation:

The 911 Coordinator of a City of the First Class

The 911 Coordinator of a County of the Second Class

The 911 Coordinator of a County of the Second Class A

The 911 Coordinator of a County of the Third or Fourth Class

Two 911 Coordinators of a County of the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, or Eight Class

Non-voting:

A Representative of the following Statewide Associations:

Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association

Fraternal Order of Police, Pennsylvania State Lodge

Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council

Pennsylvania Public Transportation Association

Pennsylvania Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials

Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association

Keystone Emergency Management Association

Pennsylvania Professional Fire Fighters Association

Fireman's Association of the State of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Wireless Association

Pennsylvania Telephone Association

Broadband Cable Association of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Municipal League

Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs

Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

Pennsylvania Association of Township Commissioners

General Member of the Public

Representative of the following Commonwealth Agencies:

The Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission

Office of the Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioner

The Pennsylvania Treasury Department

The Pennsylvania Game Commission

The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

The Governor's Office of Administration

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services

The Pennsylvania Attorney General

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

The Pennsylvania Department of Health

The Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

The Pennsylvania Office of the Consumer Advocate

All appointed members will serve at the pleasure of the Governor. County appointees will be with recommended by the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania and the 911 coordinators at the recommendation of the State chapters of the National Emergency Numbers Association of Pennsylvania. Terms of appointees are for two years, and no appointee shall serve for more than three terms. A quorum requires thirteen members and three-fourths is required for any board action.

Immunity:

The immunity section has been removed and replaced with a more streamlined set of standards.

Legislative Report:

PEMA in consultation with the board will be required to submit a report to the General Assembly to include the following:

- Recommendations on the impacts of current and anticipated technological and market changes on the provisions of 911 communications service
- Report of the solvency of the fund and recommendations on other funding methods, including but not limited to, local options for per capita, per parcel fees, and service based fees
- The viability of 911 remote dispatch centers, including local dispatch and Pennsylvania State Police Barracks.

Inventory:

Removes the strategic plan from the inventory, and places the responsibility under PEMA. Removes PA-STARNET from the inventory requirements. Adds in PSP remote dispatch points to the inventory. Changes the completion date to December 31, 2015.