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# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, 1996



# ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 109

(By Delegate *Mr. Speaker Mr. Chambers*  
*and Delegate Ashley*  
*By Request of the Executive*)

Passed July 16 1996

In Effect From Passage

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# H. B. 109

(BY MR. SPEAKER, MR. CHAMBERS, AND DELEGATE ASHLEY)  
[By Request of the Executive]

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[Passed July 16, 1996; in effect from passage.]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact section five, article six, chapter twenty-four of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the requirements for an enhanced emergency telephone system; and describing the territory which may be included in an enhanced emergency telephone system.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That section five, article six, chapter twenty-four of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 6. LOCAL EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM.**

**§24-6-5. Enhanced emergency telephone system requirements.**

1 (a) An enhanced emergency telephone system, at a  
2 minimum, shall provide that:

3 (1) All the territory in the county, including every  
4 municipal corporation in the county, which is served by  
5 telephone company central office equipment that will  
6 permit such a system to be established shall be included in  
7 the system: Provided, That if a portion of the county or a  
8 portion of a municipal corporation within the county is  
9 already being served by an enhanced emergency tele-  
10 phone system, that portion of the county or municipality  
11 may be excluded from the county enhanced emergency  
12 telephone system;

13       (2) Every emergency service provider that provides  
14 emergency service within the territory of a county partici-  
15 pate in the system;

16       (3) Each county answering point be operated con-  
17 stantly;

18       (4) Each emergency service provider participating in  
19 the system maintain a telephone number in addition to the  
20 one provided for in the system; and

21       (5) If the county answering point personnel reason-  
22 ably determine that a call is not an emergency, the person-  
23 nel provide the caller with the number of the appropriate  
24 emergency service provider.

25       (b) To the extent possible, enhanced emergency tele-  
26 phone systems shall be centralized.

27       (c) In developing an enhanced emergency telephone  
28 system, the county commission or the West Virginia State  
29 Police shall seek the advice of both the telephone compa-  
30 nies providing local exchange service within the county  
31 and the local emergency providers.

32       (d) As a condition of continued employment, persons  
33 employed to dispatch emergency calls shall successfully  
34 complete a forty-hour nationally recognized training  
35 course for dispatchers within one year of the date of their  
36 employment; except that persons employed to dispatch  
37 emergency calls prior to the effective date of this subsec-  
38 tion, as a condition of continuing employment, shall suc-  
39 cessfully complete such a course not later than the first  
40 day of July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-five.

41       (e) Each county or municipality shall appoint for each  
42 answering point an enhanced emergency telephone system  
43 advisory board consisting of at least six members to moni-  
44 tor the operation of the system. The board shall be ap-  
45 pointed by the county or municipality and shall include at  
46 least one member from affected fire service providers,  
47 law-enforcement providers, emergency medical providers  
48 and emergency services providers participating in the  
49 system and at least one member from the county or mu-  
50 nicipality. The board may make recommendations to the

51 county or municipality concerning the operation of the  
52 system.

53 In addition, the director of the county or municipal  
54 enhanced telephone system shall serve as an ex officio  
55 member of the advisory board. The initial advisory board  
56 shall serve staggered terms of one, two and three years.  
57 The initial terms of these appointees shall commence on  
58 the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred  
59 ninety-four. All future appointments shall be for terms of  
60 three years, except that an appointment to fill a vacancy  
61 shall be for the unexpired term. All members shall serve  
62 without compensation. The board shall adopt such poli-  
63 cies, rules and regulations as are necessary for its own  
64 guidance. The board shall meet monthly on the day of  
65 each month which the board may designate. The board  
66 may make recommendations to the county or municipali-  
67 ty concerning the operation of the system.

68 (f) Any advisory board established prior to the first  
69 day of January, one thousand nine hundred ninety-four,  
70 shall have three years to meet the criteria of subsection (e)  
71 of this section.

72 (g) Nothing herein contained shall be construed to  
73 prohibit or discourage in any way the establishment of  
74 multijurisdictional or regional systems, or multijurisdic-  
75 tional or regional agreements for the establishment of  
76 enhanced emergency telephone systems, and any system  
77 established pursuant to this article may include the territo-  
78 ry of more than one public agency, or may include only a  
79 portion of the territory of a public agency.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

*Herb DeSpain*  
Chairman Senate Committee

*Randy Seaman*  
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage

*David Williams*  
Clerk of the Senate

*Bryson In Bag*  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

*Carl Ray Tomblin*  
President of the Senate

*Carl Cohen*  
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within *is approved* this the *25th*  
day of *July*, 1996.

*Gaston Caperton*  
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 7/19/96

Time 3:52 pm