

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1770

5 By: Representative Tucker  
6 By: Senator L. Chesterfield  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE ARKANSAS BLUE  
10 RIBBON COMMITTEE ON LOCAL 911 SYSTEMS; TO DECLARE AN  
11 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE ARKANSAS  
16 BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON LOCAL 911  
17 SYSTEMS; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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22 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. The Legislative  
23 Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems – Creation – Membership.

24 (a) There is created the "Legislative Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee  
25 on Local 911 Systems".

26 (b)(1) The committee shall consist of the following members who are  
27 residents of this state:

28 (A) One (1) member who is the Director of the Association  
29 of Arkansas Counties or the director's designee;

30 (B) One (1) member who is the Director of the Arkansas  
31 Department of Emergency Management or the director's designee;

32 (C) One (1) member who is the Director of the Department  
33 of Information Systems or his or her designee;

34 (D) One (1) member who is the State Geographic Information  
35 Officer or his or her designee;

36 (E) One (1) member who is currently employed as an



emergency responder in this state to be appointed by the Governor;

(F) One (1) member who is an elected county judge to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

(G) Two (2) members who are both currently serving as state senators to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

(H) One (1) consumer member to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

(I) One (1) member who is currently serving as a mayor to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(J) Two (2) members who are both currently serving as state representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(K) One (1) consumer member to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(2) If any vacancy occurs on the committee, the vacancy shall be filled by the same process as the original appointment.

(c)(1) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint one (1) of the senators who is a member of the committee as cochair, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one (1) of the representatives who is a member of the committee as cochair.

(2) The first and subsequent meetings shall be at the call of the cochairs at a location within the state chosen by the cochairs.

(3) The committee shall establish rules and procedures for conducting its business.

(4) A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for transacting business of the committee.

(d)(1) The committee may create advisory task forces as the committee deems necessary.

(2) The members of the task forces or other persons drawn from outside the committee or task force shall serve at the pleasure of the committee.

SECTION 2. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems – Duties.

The Legislative Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems shall:

1           (1) Perform a detailed and comprehensive study of local 911  
 2 systems across the State of Arkansas;

3           (2) Seek input from all appropriate sources including state,  
 4 county, and municipal elected officials to determine the current state of  
 5 local 911 systems across the State of Arkansas;

6           (3) Research the number, location, staffing, and equipment of  
 7 each Public Safety Answering Point, or "PSAP", in every county in the state;

8           (4) Determine if there are local 911 systems with overlap and  
 9 inefficiencies within the counties of this state;

10          (5) Identify all current funding for 911 systems;

11          (6) Identify all training that is required or available for 911  
 12 personnel within this state;

13          (7) Obtain research and information from within this state and  
 14 other states related to 911 systems;

15          (8) Consider appropriate solutions that provide a statewide 911  
 16 network that is efficient and effective;

17          (9) Make recommendations to the Governor, the President Pro  
 18 Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

19          (10) Continue the work of the previous Legislative Arkansas Blue  
 20 Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems that expired on January 1, 2017; and

21          (11) Examine the possibility of a regional approach to 911  
 22 systems within this state.

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 24          SECTION 3. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative Arkansas  
 25 Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems – Report – Recommendations.

26          (a) The Legislative Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911  
 27 Systems shall submit a report and its recommendations on or before September  
 28 1, 2018.

29          (b) The report shall be submitted to:

30           (1) The Governor;

31           (2) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

32           (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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 34          SECTION 4. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative Arkansas  
 35 Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems – Staff support.

36          The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management and the Bureau of

1 Legislative Research shall provide staff support for the Legislative Arkansas  
2 Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems.

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4 SECTION 5. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative Arkansas  
5 Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems – Per diem.

6 Legislative and nonlegislative members of the Legislative Arkansas Blue  
7 Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems are entitled to per diem and mileage at  
8 the same rate authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim  
9 committees of the General Assembly and shall be paid from the funds in the  
10 Arkansas 911 Rural Enhancement Program Fund at the Arkansas Department of  
11 Emergency Management, if funds are available.

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13 SECTION 6. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative Arkansas  
14 Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems – Expiration.

15 The Legislative Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems  
16 expires on June 30, 2019.

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18 SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
19 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that 911 emergency service is  
20 essential to protect the lives, health, and welfare of the state's residents  
21 in emergency situations; that 911 service is not available in many rural  
22 areas of the state; that this act should be implemented immediately to  
23 provide an appropriate amount of time to fully assess the local 911 systems  
24 across this state before the next regular session of the General Assembly and  
25 that this act is necessary to expand the benefits of the 911 emergency system  
26 to all residents of this state. Therefore, an emergency is declared to  
27 exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the  
28 public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

29 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

30 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
31 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
32 bill; or

33 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is  
34 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.