

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: S3/28/13 S4/3/13*

2 89th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2013

SENATE BILL 974

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5 By: Senator J. Dismang

6 By: Representative Wren

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE ARKANSAS BLUE

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RIBBON COMMITTEE ON LOCAL 911 SYSTEMS; TO DECLARE AN

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EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS BLUE RIBBON

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COMMITTEE ON LOCAL 911 SYSTEMS; AND TO

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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 an elected county judge to be*

33 *appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;*

34 *(D) Two (2) members who are both currently serving as*

35 *state senators to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;*

36 *(E) One (1) consumer member to be appointed by the*



1 President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

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

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

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

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

11 (c)(1) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint one (1)
12 of the Senators who is a member of the committee as cochair and the Speaker
13 of the House of Representatives shall appoint one (1) of the Representatives
14 who is a member of the committee as cochair.

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

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

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

21 (d)(1) The committee may create advisory task forces as it deems
22 necessary.

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

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

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

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

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

36 (3) Research the number, location, staffing, and equipment of

1 each Public Safety Answering Point or "PSAP" in every county in the state;

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

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

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

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

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

11 (9) Make recommendations to the Governor, President Pro Tempore
12 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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

16 (a) The Legislative Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911
17 Systems shall submit a report and its recommendations on or before September
18 1, 2014.

19 (b) The report shall be submitted to:

20 (1) The Governor;

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

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

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

26 The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management and the Bureau of
27 Legislative Research shall provide staff support for the Legislative Arkansas
28 Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems.

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

32 Legislative and nonlegislative members of the Legislative Arkansas Blue
33 Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems are entitled to per diem and mileage at
34 the same rate authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim
35 committees of the General Assembly and shall be paid from the funds in the
36 Arkansas 911 Rural Enhancement Program Cash Fund at the Arkansas Department

1 of Emergency Management, if funds are available.

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

5 The Legislative Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems
6 expires on January 1, 2015.

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8 SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
9 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that 911 emergency service is
10 essential to protect the lives, health, and welfare of the state’s residents
11 in emergency situations; that 911 service is not available in many rural
12 areas of the state; that this act should be implemented immediately to
13 provide an appropriate amount of time to fully assess the local 911 systems
14 across this state before the next Regular Session of the Arkansas Legislature
15 and that this act is necessary to expand the benefits of the 911 emergency
16 system to all residents of this state. Therefore, an emergency is declared
17 to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of
18 the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

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

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

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

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27 /s/J. Dismang

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30 **APPROVED: 04/12/2013**