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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 2215

03/15/2021

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to public safety; directing that unspent funds in the 911 emergency

1.3 telecommunications service account be used for grants to counties to design,

1.4 develop, implement, operate, and maintain the geographic information system;

1.5 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 403.11,

1.6 subdivision 1.

1.7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 403.11, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.9 Subdivision 1. **Emergency telecommunications service fee; account.** (a) Each customer

1.10 of a wireless or wire-line switched or packet-based telecommunications service provider

1.11 connected to the public switched telephone network that furnishes service capable of

1.12 originating a 911 emergency telephone call is assessed a fee based upon the number of

1.13 wired or wireless telephone lines, or their equivalent, to cover the costs of ongoing

1.14 maintenance and related improvements for trunking and central office switching equipment

1.15 for 911 emergency telecommunications service, to offset administrative and staffing costs

1.16 of the commissioner related to managing the 911 emergency telecommunications service

1.17 program, to make distributions provided for in section 403.113, and to offset the costs,

1.18 including administrative and staffing costs, incurred by the State Patrol Division of the

1.19 Department of Public Safety in handling 911 emergency calls made from wireless phones.

1.20 (b) Money remaining in the 911 emergency telecommunications service account after

1.21 all other obligations are paid must not cancel and is carried forward to subsequent years

1.22 and may shall be appropriated ~~from time to time~~ to the commissioner to provide financial

1.23 assistance to counties for the improvement of local emergency telecommunications services,²

1.24 including:

2.1 (1) the design, development, implementation, and ongoing operation of the geographic
2.2 information systems necessary to implement Minnesota's next generation 911 service
2.3 pursuant to section 403.392, subdivision 2;

2.4 (2) the development of and support for the implementation of computer aided dispatch
2.5 interoperability, including the networks to support such interoperability; and

2.6 (3) other maintenance, updates, and improvement of public safety answering points.

2.7 (c) The fee may not be less than eight cents nor more than 65 cents a month until June
2.8 30, 2008, not less than eight cents nor more than 75 cents a month until June 30, 2009, not
2.9 less than eight cents nor more than 85 cents a month until June 30, 2010, and not less than
2.10 eight cents nor more than 95 cents a month on or after July 1, 2010, for each customer access
2.11 line or other basic access service, including trunk equivalents as designated by the Public
2.12 Utilities Commission for access charge purposes and including wireless telecommunications
2.13 services. With the approval of the commissioner of management and budget, the
2.14 commissioner of public safety shall establish the amount of the fee within the limits specified
2.15 and inform the companies and carriers of the amount to be collected. ~~When the revenue~~
2.16 ~~bonds authorized under section 403.27, subdivision 1, have been fully paid or defeased, the~~
2.17 ~~commissioner shall reduce the fee to reflect that debt service on the bonds is no longer~~
2.18 ~~needed.~~ The commissioner shall provide companies and carriers a minimum of 45 days'
2.19 notice of each fee change. The fee must be the same for all customers, except that the fee
2.20 imposed under this subdivision does not apply to prepaid wireless telecommunications
2.21 service, which is instead subject to the fee imposed under section 403.161, subdivision 1,
2.22 paragraph (a).

2.23 (d) The fee must be collected by each wireless or wire-line telecommunications service
2.24 provider subject to the fee. Fees are payable to and must be submitted to the commissioner
2.25 monthly before the 25th of each month following the month of collection, except that fees
2.26 may be submitted quarterly if less than \$250 a month is due, or annually if less than \$25 a
2.27 month is due. Receipts must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to a 911
2.28 emergency telecommunications service account in the special revenue fund. The money in
2.29 the account may only be used for 911 telecommunications services.

2.30 (e) Competitive local exchanges carriers holding certificates of authority from the Public
2.31 Utilities Commission are eligible to receive payment for recurring 911 services.

3.1 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS GRANTS.**

3.2 \$..... in fiscal year 2022 and \$..... in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from the 911
3.3 emergency telecommunications service account to the commissioner of public safety for
3.4 grants to counties for the design, development, implementation, and ongoing operation of
3.5 the geographic information systems pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 403.11,
3.6 subdivision 1, paragraph (b).