
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WIRELESS ENHANCED 911.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 138-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes is
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 " (b) [~~The effective date of the surcharge shall be July 1,~~
4 ~~2004.~~] The rate of the surcharge shall be set at [66] 43 cents
5 per month for each commercial mobile radio service connection.

6 The surcharge shall have uniform application and shall be
7 imposed on each commercial mobile radio service connection
8 operating within the State except:

- 9 (1) Connections billed to federal, state, and county
10 government entities; and
11 (2) Prepaid connections."

12 SECTION 2. The auditor shall conduct a financial and
13 management audit of the wireless enhanced 911 fund to address
14 the following issues:

- 15 (1) The role the wireless enhanced 911 board should play
16 in assisting the counties in deployment or operation
17 of wireless enhanced 911 in light of the department of



- 1 health's duties assigned pursuant to sections 321-
2 224(a)(7) and 321-225(a)(6), Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- 3 (2) The responsibility of the county councils to determine
4 whether provision of wireless enhanced 911 services is
5 a budget priority within their respective
6 jurisdictions;
- 7 (3) Whether the statutory authority to reimburse the
8 public safety answering points and the wireless
9 service providers for costs incurred to deploy
10 wireless enhanced 911 services includes or should
11 include:
- 12 (A) The ongoing cost of operating 911 call centers,
13 including trunking line charges, answering
14 position charges, and long distance calling
15 charges assessed by the local exchange carrier;
- 16 (B) The cost incurred for acquiring personnel
17 services by contract that would be prohibited if
18 acquired by hiring personnel; and
- 19 (C) The cost of equipment that may also be used to
20 process wireline 911 calls;
- 21 (4) Whether the wireless enhanced 911 board should be
22 expending funds from the wireless enhanced 911 fund to



1 purchase products for use by the public safety
2 answering points rather than reimbursing the counties
3 for those purchases;

4 (5) Whether the wireless enhanced 911 fund serves the
5 purpose for which it was created and reflects a clear
6 link between the benefit sought and charges made upon
7 the users or beneficiaries of the program, as opposed
8 to serving primarily as a means to provide the program
9 or users with an automatic means of support which is
10 removed from the normal budget and appropriations
11 process;

12 (6) Whether the surcharge tax amount assessed to customers
13 is sufficient to fund the wireless enhanced 911 fund
14 and, if not, recommend an appropriate surcharge tax
15 amount; and

16 (7) Any other issues pertinent to the audit revealed by
17 the auditor's review of the wireless enhanced 911
18 board's records and interviews of its personnel.

19 The auditor shall submit a report to the legislature no
20 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
21 session of 2009, containing findings and recommendations,
22 including any proposed legislation and identifying alternative



1 forms of funding concerning how the wireless enhanced 911 fund
2 has been managed and the moneys in the fund are expended.

3 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 29, 2008.



Report Title:

Wireless Enhanced 911; Surcharge

Description:

Decreases from \$0.66 to \$0.43 per month the surcharge customers pay on each mobile phone for E911 emergency mobile phone services. Requires the Auditor to perform a financial and management audit of the wireless enhanced 911 fund. (SD1)

