

SENATE, No. 497

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 22, 1996

By Senator BENNETT

1 AN ACT concerning the 9-1-1 commission and amending P.L.1989,
2 c.3.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 2 of P.L.1989, c.3 (C.52:17C-2) is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 2. a. There is created in the Department of Law and Public Safety
10 a commission to be known as the 9-1-1 Commission which shall
11 oversee the office in the planning, design, and implementation of the
12 Statewide emergency enhanced 9-1-1 telephone system to be
13 established pursuant to this act. The commission shall consist of 26
14 members as follows: two members of the Senate appointed by the
15 President of the Senate, who shall not be both of the same political
16 party; two members of the General Assembly, appointed by the
17 Speaker of the General Assembly, who shall not be both of the same
18 political party; the following members ex officio: Attorney General of
19 the State of New Jersey; President of the Board of Public Utilities;
20 Superintendent of State Police; Deputy Director of the State Office of
21 Emergency Management in the Department of Law and Public Safety;
22 Director of the Bureau of Fire Safety in the Department of Community
23 Affairs; Director of Emergency Medical Services in the Division of
24 Community Health Services of the Department of Health; the
25 Administrator of the Office of Telecommunications and Information
26 Systems in the Department of the Treasury; the following public
27 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of
28 the Senate: a representative of the New Jersey State League of
29 Municipalities; a representative of the New Jersey State Association
30 of Chiefs of Police; a representative of the Fire Fighters' Association
31 of New Jersey; a representative of the New Jersey First Aid Council;
32 a representative of the Associated Public Safety Communications
33 Officers (APCO); a representative of [the New Jersey Bell Co.] Bell
34 Atlantic-New Jersey; a representative of the independent telephone

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 companies; two members representing county-wide dispatch centers;
2 one representative of the Sheriffs Association of New Jersey; one
3 representative of the New Jersey Fire Chiefs Association; two
4 members representing multi-municipal public safety dispatch centers
5 who serve more than one, but less than five municipalities; and two
6 members representing municipal public safety dispatch centers.

7 The members of the Senate and General Assembly appointed to the
8 commission shall serve for terms which shall be for the term for which
9 they were elected. Of the public members first appointed by the
10 Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, five shall be
11 appointed for terms of three years, five shall be appointed for terms of
12 two years, and five shall be appointed for terms of one year.
13 Thereafter, the public members of the commission shall be appointed
14 for terms of three years. Vacancies on the commission shall be filled
15 in the same manner as the original appointment but for the unexpired
16 term. Members may be removed by the appointing authority for cause.
17 The initial members shall be appointed within 30 days of the operative
18 date of this act. The commission shall have the authority to establish
19 subcommittees as it deems appropriate to carry out the purposes of
20 this act.

21 b. Members of the commission shall serve without compensation
22 but the public and legislative members shall be entitled to
23 reimbursement for expenses incurred in performance of their duties,
24 within the limits of any funds appropriated or otherwise made available
25 for that purpose.

26 c. Each ex officio member may designate an employee of the
27 member's department or agency to represent the member at meetings
28 or hearings of the commission. All designees may lawfully vote and
29 otherwise act on behalf of the members for whom they constitute the
30 designees.

31 d. [The commission shall expire on the first day of the first month
32 following the Statewide implementation of the operation of the
33 enhanced 9-1-1 service as shall be determined by the Attorney
34 General] Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. (now pending before the
35 Legislature as this bill).

36 (cf: P.L.1989, c.3, s.2)

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38 2. Section 3 of P.L.1989, c.3 (C.52:17C-3) is amended to read as
39 follows:

40 3. a. There is established in the Department of Law and Public
41 Safety an Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services.

42 b. The office shall be under the immediate supervision of a
43 director, who shall be a person qualified by training and experience to
44 direct the work of the office. The director shall administer the
45 provisions of this act subject to review by the commission and shall
46 perform other duties as may be provided by law. The director shall be

1 appointed by the Attorney General, but the commission shall advise
2 the Attorney General on the qualifications of the director. The
3 Attorney General is authorized to appoint, in accordance with Title
4 11A of the New Jersey Statutes, clerical, technical, and professional
5 assistants, and also may designate any available personnel as shall be
6 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.

7 The office shall, subject to review by the commission, [or the
8 Attorney General, only as provided in subsection c. of this section,]
9 and in consultation with the telephone companies and the Board of
10 Public Utilities, and with the assistance of the Office of
11 Telecommunications and Information Systems in the Department of
12 the Treasury, plan, design, implement, and coordinate the Statewide
13 emergency enhanced 9-1-1 telephone system to be established
14 pursuant to this act.

15 To this end the office shall establish, after review and approval by
16 the commission, a State plan for the emergency enhanced 9-1-1 system
17 in this State, which plan shall include:

18 (1) The configuration of, and requirements for, the enhanced 9-1-1
19 network. The office with the approval of the commission[, or the
20 Attorney General, only as provided herein,] and assistance and advice
21 of the Office of Telecommunications and Information Systems in the
22 Department of the Treasury is empowered to enter into contracts with
23 the telephone companies for the provision of this network.

24 (2) The role and responsibilities of the counties and municipalities
25 of the State in the implementation of the system, consistent with the
26 provisions of this act, including a timetable for implementation.

27 (3) Technical and operational standards for the establishment of
28 public safety answering points (PSAPs) which utilize enhanced 9-1-1
29 network features in accordance with the provisions of this act. Those
30 entities having responsibility for the creation and management of
31 PSAPs shall conform to these standards in the design, implementation
32 and operation of the PSAPs. These standards shall include provision
33 for the training and certification of call-takers and public safety
34 dispatchers or for the adoption of such a program.

35 The State plan shall be established within 270 days of the operative
36 date of this act except that the technical and operational standards
37 specified in paragraph (3) of this subsection shall be established within
38 180 days of the operative date of this act.

39 The office, after review and approval by the commission, [or the
40 Attorney General, only as provided herein,] may update and revise the
41 State plan from time to time.

42 The office may inspect each PSAP to determine if it meets the
43 requirements of this act and the technical and operational standards
44 established pursuant to this section. The office shall explore ways to
45 maximize the reliability of the system.

46 The plan or any portion of it may be implemented by the adoption

1 of regulations pursuant to subsection b. of section 15 of this act.

2 The office shall plan, implement and coordinate a Statewide public
3 education program designed to generate public awareness at all levels
4 of the emergency enhanced 9-1-1 system. Advertising and display of
5 9-1-1 shall be in accordance with standards established by the office.
6 Advertising expenses may be defrayed from the moneys appropriated
7 to the office.

8 The office, after review and approval by the commission, [or the
9 Attorney General, only as provided herein,] shall submit a report to
10 the Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee and the
11 Assembly Appropriations Committee, or their successors, not later
12 than February 15 of each year, concerning its progress in carrying out
13 this act and the expenditure of moneys appropriated thereto and
14 appropriated for the purposes of installation of the Statewide enhanced
15 9-1-1 network.

16 c. [Upon the expiration of the commission, the Attorney General
17 shall be responsible for the review and approval of any function of the
18 office which was the responsibility of the commission] Deleted by
19 amendment, P.L. .c. (now pending before the Legislature as this
20 bill).

21 (cf: P.L.1989, c.3, s.3)

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23 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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28 Under the provisions of this bill, the 9-1-1 commission established
29 pursuant to P.L.1989, c.3 (C.52:17C-1 et seq.) would become a
30 permanent commission which would oversee the enhanced 9-1-1
31 emergency telephone system on a continuing basis. Under current law,
32 the commission would expire shortly after enhanced 9-1-1 service is
33 implemented Statewide.

34 The bill reflects the name change of the New Jersey Bell Co. to Bell
35 Atlantic - New Jersey.

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40 Provides for permanent 9-1-1 commission.