

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

—
S.P. 993 - L.D. 2278

An Act to Require Public Safety Answering Point and Dispatch Center Cost Reporting and to Direct the Formation of a Staffing and Recruiting Stakeholder Group

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2921, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:

4-A. Dispatch center. "Dispatch center" means an emergency communications center that receives 9-1-1 calls from a public safety answering point rather than receiving the calls directly.

Sec. 2. 25 MRSA §2921, sub-§4-B is enacted to read:

4-B. Emergency communications center. "Emergency communications center" has the same meaning as in Title 17-A, section 509, subsection 1.

Sec. 3. 25 MRSA §2923-C is enacted to read:

§2923-C. Cost reporting

1. Reporting requirements. Annually, on a date prescribed by the bureau by rule, a public safety answering point and dispatch center shall each provide the bureau with a report of the costs incurred by the public safety answering point or dispatch center for the provision of enhanced 9-1-1 services.

2. Rules. The bureau shall adopt rules to implement this section. The rules must establish requirements for the report provided by a public safety answering point and dispatch center pursuant to subsection 1, including, at a minimum:

A. The manner by which the report must be submitted to the bureau;

B. The specific cost components for the provision of enhanced 9-1-1 services to be included in the report; and

C. The date by which the report must be submitted.

Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 4. 25 MRSA §2927, sub-§3-E is enacted to read:

3-E. Quality assurance review support. The bureau shall contract with one or more 3rd-party vendors, using revenues in the E-9-1-1 fund, to provide quality assurance review in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to subsection 3-C, paragraph A and Title 32, section 85-A, related to the provision of emergency medical dispatch services and answering fire 9-1-1 calls by public safety answering points.

Sec. 5. Public safety answering point staffing crisis stakeholder group. The Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau shall convene a stakeholder group to develop a coordinated 9-1-1 staffing and recruiting effort for all public safety answering points. The bureau shall ensure that there is stakeholder representation from state, county and municipal public safety answering points. On or before February 21, 2025, the bureau shall submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters a report that includes any recommendations, including suggested legislation as necessary. The committee may report out a bill related to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Emergency Services Communication Bureau 0994

Initiative: Provides funding for contracted services to conduct quality assurance reviews.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$100,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$100,000

Emergency Services Communication Bureau 0994

Initiative: Provides funding for one Staff Development Specialist IV position and associated costs.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$0	\$88,656
All Other	\$0	\$16,571
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$105,227

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	\$205,227
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$205,227