

Senate File 2458 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2458
BY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3008)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to public safety answering points, including
2 limitations, property tax allocation, service requirements,
3 management, consolidation, transfer of duties from joint 911
4 service boards to local emergency management commissions, and
5 reporting requirements, and including transfer and effective
6 date provisions.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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DIVISION I

PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINTS

Section 1. Section 29C.9, subsection 10, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

~~10. The commission shall, if agreed to by a two-thirds majority of the commission and a two-thirds majority of the joint 911 service board,~~ be responsible for the emergency telephone system activities of a joint 911 service board if substituted for a joint 911 service board pursuant to section 34A.3, subsection 4 required under chapter 34A.

Sec. 2. Section 29C.9, Code 2026, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 12. Each local emergency management commission, in addition to duties under this chapter and chapter 34A, shall annually submit to the department the following, which the department shall publish on its internet site:

a. A five-year plan identifying anticipated 911 service infrastructure needs, upgrades, and improvements.

b. An inventory including all of the following:

- (1) All agency full-time equivalent positions and associated costs.
- (2) All equipment owned or used by the agency and associated costs.
- (3) All structures owned or used by the agency and associated costs.
- (4) All equipment owned by public safety agencies located within the commission's jurisdiction, including law enforcement, fire protection, emergency medical services, and the sheriff.

Sec. 3. Section 34A.2, Code 2026, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 13A. "Local emergency management commission" means a local emergency management commission established under section 29C.9, acting pursuant to this chapter.

Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **34A.2B Public safety answering points — accessing criminal justice information.**

1 A public safety answering point that accesses criminal justice
2 information shall comply with the security policy of the federal
3 bureau of investigation's criminal justice information services
4 and any requirements imposed by the Iowa department of public
5 safety.

6 Sec. 5. Section 34A.3, Code 2026, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 **34A.3 ~~Joint 911 service board~~ Local emergency management**
9 **commission — 911 service plan — implementation — waivers.**

10 1. ~~Joint 911 service boards~~ Local emergency management
11 commissions — plans.

12 ~~α. The board of supervisors of each county shall maintain a~~
13 ~~joint 911 service board.~~

14 ~~(1) Each political subdivision of the state having a public~~
15 ~~safety agency serving territory within the county and each~~
16 ~~local emergency management agency as defined in section 29C.2~~
17 ~~operating within the area is entitled to voting membership on the~~
18 ~~joint 911 service board. For the purposes of this section, a~~
19 ~~township that operates a volunteer fire department providing fire~~
20 ~~protection services to the township, or a city which provides~~
21 ~~fire protection services through the operation of a volunteer~~
22 ~~fire department not financed through city government, shall be~~
23 ~~considered a political subdivision of the state having a public~~
24 ~~safety agency serving territory within the county. Each private~~
25 ~~safety agency operating within the area is entitled to nonvoting~~
26 ~~membership on the board.~~

27 ~~(2) A township that does not operate its own public safety~~
28 ~~agency, but contracts for the provision of public safety~~
29 ~~services, is not entitled to membership on the joint 911 service~~
30 ~~board, but its contractor is entitled to membership according to~~
31 ~~the contractor's status as a public or private safety agency.~~

32 ~~(3) The sheriff of each county, or the sheriff's designee, is~~
33 ~~entitled to voting membership on the joint 911 service board.~~

34 ~~(4) The chief of police of each city operating a public~~
35 ~~safety answering point, or the chief of police's designee, is~~

~~1 entitled to voting membership on the joint 911 service board of
2 the county where the city is located.~~

3 ~~b. a. (1) The joint 911 service board local emergency
4 management commission shall maintain a 911 service plan
5 encompassing at minimum the entire county, unless an exemption is
6 granted by the program manager permitting a smaller 911 service
7 area. Except as otherwise authorized in this paragraph, not more
8 than one public safety answering point shall provide 911 service
9 within a county. This subsection does not apply to a public
10 safety answering point operated by the national guard, any branch
11 of the armed forces of the United States, or the department of
12 public safety.~~

13 ~~(2) If a city extends into more than one county, the city,
14 the counties, and the local emergency management commissions
15 serving the city shall enter into an agreement to determine
16 how 911 calls originating from the city are allocated to the
17 public safety answering points in the counties where the city is
18 located.~~

19 ~~b. Public safety answering points providing 911 service
20 within the same county shall at all times maintain communication
21 capabilities with each other and with all public safety agencies
22 within the county, including those providing fire protection, law
23 enforcement, emergency medical services, and the sheriff.~~

24 ~~(1) The program manager may grant a discretionary exemption
25 from the single county minimum service area requirement based
26 upon a joint 911 service board's or other 911 service plan
27 operating authority's presentation of evidence which supports
28 the requested exemption if the program manager finds that local
29 conditions make adherence to the minimum standard unreasonable
30 or technically infeasible and that the purposes of this chapter
31 would be furthered by granting an exemption. The minimum size
32 requirement is intended to prevent unnecessary duplication of
33 public safety answering points and minimize other administrative,
34 personnel, and equipment expenses.~~

35 ~~(2) The program manager may order the inclusion of a specific~~

1 ~~territory not serviced by surrounding 911 service plan areas in~~
2 ~~an adjoining 911 service plan area upon request of the joint 911~~
3 ~~service board representing the territory to avoid the creation by~~
4 ~~exclusion of a territory smaller than a single county.~~

5 c. The A 911 service plan operating authority shall submit
6 proposed changes to the plan to all of the following:

7 (1) The program manager.

8 (2) Public and private safety agencies in the 911 service
9 area.

10 (3) Local exchange service providers affected by the 911
11 service plan.

12 2. *Compliance waivers available in limited circumstances.*

13 a. The program manager may extend the time period for plan
14 implementation by issuing a compliance waiver.

15 b. The compliance waiver shall be based upon a joint
16 ~~911 service board's~~ local emergency management commission's
17 presentation of evidence ~~which~~ that supports an extension if the
18 program manager finds that local conditions make implementation
19 financially unreasonable or technically infeasible by the
20 originally scheduled plan of implementation.

21 c. The compliance waiver shall be for a set period of time,
22 and subject to review and renewal or denial of renewal upon its
23 expiration.

24 d. The waiver may cover all or a portion of a 911 service
25 plan's 911 service area to facilitate phased implementation when
26 possible.

27 e. The granting of a compliance waiver does not create a
28 presumption that the identical or similar waiver will be extended
29 in the future.

30 f. Consideration of compliance waivers shall be on a
31 case-by-case basis.

32 ~~3. Chapter 28E agreement — alternative to joint 911 service~~
33 ~~board.~~

34 ~~a. A legal entity created pursuant to chapter 28E by a county~~
35 ~~or counties, other political divisions, and public or private~~

~~1 agencies to jointly plan, implement, and operate a countywide,
2 or larger, 911 service system may be substituted for the joint
3 911 service board required under subsection 1. An alternative
4 legal entity created pursuant to chapter 28E as a substitute for
5 a joint 911 service board, as permitted by this subsection, may
6 be created by either:~~

~~7 (1) Agreement of the parties entitled to voting membership on
8 a joint 911 service board.~~

~~9 (2) Agreement of the members of a joint 911 service board.~~

~~10 b. An alternative chapter 28E entity has all of the powers
11 of a joint 911 service board and any additional powers granted
12 by the agreement. As used in this chapter, "joint 911 service
13 board" includes an alternative chapter 28E entity created for
14 that purpose, except as specifically limited by the chapter 28E
15 agreement or unless clearly provided otherwise in this chapter.
16 A chapter 28E agreement related to 911 service shall permit the
17 participation of a private safety agency or other persons allowed
18 to participate in a joint 911 service board, but the terms,
19 scope, and conditions of participation are subject to the chapter
20 28E agreement.~~

~~21 4. Local emergency management commission — alternative to
22 911 service board.~~

~~23 a. Subject to section 29C.9, subsection 10, a local emergency
24 management commission may be substituted for the joint 911
25 service board required under subsection 1 by the board of
26 supervisors of the county in which the joint 911 service board
27 is maintained.~~

~~28 b. A commission shall have all of the powers of a joint 911
29 service board if a commission is substituted for the joint 911
30 service board pursuant to paragraph "a".~~

~~31 c. As used in this chapter, "joint 911 service board"
32 includes a commission if a commission is substituted for the
33 joint 911 service board pursuant to paragraph "a".~~

~~34 5. Participation in joint 911 service board required. A
35 political subdivision having a public or private safety agency~~

~~1 within its territory or jurisdiction shall participate in a joint
2 911 service board and cooperate in maintaining the 911 service
3 plan.~~

4 3. Consolidation.

5 a. On or before December 31, 2026, each joint 911 service
6 board existing on the effective date of this Act shall submit
7 to the department of homeland security and emergency management
8 a letter of intent to consolidate all public safety answering
9 points within the county to one and transfer all funds,
10 debts, contract rights, and obligations to the local emergency
11 management commission by December 31, 2031. On or before
12 December 31, 2027, each county shall submit to the department
13 a plan on how the county will reform or consolidate within the
14 required time frame. This paragraph is repealed on January 1,
15 2033.

16 b. An employee employed by a public safety answering point
17 whose employment is discontinued due to consolidation under this
18 subsection shall be given a hiring preference for one year
19 following the employee's last date of employment with the public
20 safety answering point for any similar position with another
21 public safety answering point in Iowa. This paragraph shall not
22 be construed to supersede any collective bargaining agreements.
23 This paragraph is repealed on January 1, 2033.

24 c. A county that contains more than one public safety
25 answering point after December 31, 2031, shall be allocated
26 one dollar out of the one dollar and twenty cent surcharge
27 implemented pursuant to section 34A.7A. The remaining statutory
28 allocation of twenty cents shall be evenly distributed to all
29 other counties not exceeding one public service answering point
30 within the county.

31 d. Except for transfer requirements from joint 911 service
32 boards existing on the effective date of this Act to local
33 emergency management commissions, this subsection does not apply
34 to a county with only one public safety answering point on July
35 1, 2026, or to any public safety answering points operated by

1 the national guard, any branch of the armed forces of the United
2 States, or the department of public safety.

3 e. Each joint 911 service board existing on the effective
4 date of this Act shall transfer all funds, debts, contract
5 rights, and obligations to the local emergency management
6 commission no later December 31, 2031. This paragraph is
7 repealed on January 1, 2033.

8 Sec. 6. Section 34A.7, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 When a 911 service plan is implemented, the costs of providing
11 911 service within a 911 service area are the responsibility of
12 the joint 911 service board local emergency management commission
13 and the member political subdivisions. Costs in excess of
14 the amount raised by imposition of the 911 service surcharge
15 provided for under subsection 1 shall be paid by the ~~joint 911~~
16 service board local emergency management commission from such
17 revenue sources allocated among the member political subdivisions
18 as determined by the ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency
19 management commission. Funding is not limited to the surcharge,
20 and surcharge revenues may be supplemented by other permissible
21 local and state revenue sources. A ~~joint 911 service board~~ local
22 emergency management commission shall not commit a political
23 subdivision to appropriate property tax revenues to fund a 911
24 service plan without the consent of the political subdivision.
25 A ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management commission
26 may approve a 911 service plan, including a funding formula
27 requiring appropriations by participating political subdivisions,
28 subject to the approval of the funding formula by each political
29 subdivision. However, a political subdivision may agree in
30 advance to appropriate property tax revenues or other moneys
31 according to a formula or plan developed by an alternative
32 chapter 28E entity. Property tax revenues appropriated by a
33 political subdivision under the funding formula for the purpose
34 of supporting public safety answering point operations shall
35 be paid only to the local emergency management commission that

1 operates the primary public safety answering point serving the
2 political subdivision.

3 Sec. 7. Section 34A.7, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2026,
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 a. To encourage local implementation of 911 service, one
6 source of funding for 911 emergency communication systems shall
7 come from a surcharge per month, per access line on each access
8 line subscriber, of one dollar and twenty cents.

9 Sec. 8. Section 34A.7A, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2026,
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 a. The director shall adopt by rule a monthly surcharge of
12 one dollar and twenty cents to be imposed on each originating
13 service number provided in this state. The surcharge shall
14 be imposed uniformly on a statewide basis and simultaneously
15 on all originating service numbers as provided by rule of the
16 director. The surcharge shall not be imposed on wire-line-based
17 communications or prepaid wireless telecommunications service.

18 Sec. 9. Section 34A.7A, subsection 5, paragraph c, Code 2026,
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 c. A county joint 911 service board ~~which~~ that fails to
21 submit expenses and costs pursuant to the methodology developed
22 pursuant to paragraph "a" by March 31 of each year shall be
23 allocated sixty-five cents out of the one dollar and twenty cent
24 911 emergency communications service surcharge until March 31
25 of the following year. Remaining funds shall be held in the
26 carryover operating surplus fund until the expenses and cost
27 report is submitted by the county joint 911 service board. If
28 the county joint 911 service board submits the expense and cost
29 report before March 30 of the following year, the set aside funds
30 shall be provided to the county joint 911 service board. If the
31 county joint 911 service board fails to submit the expense and
32 cost report within one year, funds shall revert to the carryover
33 operating surplus fund and be used in accordance with subsection
34 2, paragraph "f".

35 Sec. 10. Section 34A.11, Code 2026, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 **34A.11 Communications — single point-of-contact.**

3 1. The ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management
4 commission in each 911 service area shall designate a person
5 to serve as a single point-of-contact to facilitate the
6 communication of needs, issues, or concerns regarding emergency
7 communications, interoperability, and other matters applicable
8 to emergency 911 communications and migration to the next
9 generation 911 network. The person designated as the single
10 point-of-contact shall be responsible for facilitating the
11 communication of such needs, issues, or concerns between public
12 or private safety agencies within the service area, the 911
13 program manager, the 911 communications council, the statewide
14 interoperable communications system board established in section
15 80.28, and any other person, entity, or agency the person deems
16 necessary or appropriate. The person designated shall also be
17 responsible for responding to surveys or requests for information
18 applicable to the service area received from a federal, state, or
19 local agency, entity, or board.

20 2. In the event a ~~joint 911 service board~~ local
21 emergency management commission fails to designate a single
22 point-of-contact by November 1, ~~2013~~ 2026, the ~~chairperson~~
23 ~~of the joint 911 service board~~ county sheriff shall serve
24 in that capacity. The 911 service board shall submit the
25 name and contact information for the person designated as the
26 single point-of-contact to the 911 program manager by January 1
27 annually.

28 ~~3. The provisions of this section shall be equally applicable~~
29 ~~to an alternative legal entity created pursuant to chapter 28E if~~
30 ~~such an entity is established as an alternative to a joint 911~~
31 ~~service board as provided in section 34A.3. If such an entity~~
32 ~~is established, the governing body of that entity shall designate~~
33 ~~the single point-of-contact for the entity, and the chairperson~~
34 ~~or representative official of the governing body shall serve in~~
35 ~~the event a single point-of-contact is not designated.~~

1 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act, being
2 deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

3 DIVISION II

4 CONFORMING CHANGES

5 Sec. 12. Section 16.161, Code 2026, is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 **16.161 Authority to issue 911 program bonds and notes.**

8 1. The authority shall assist the program manager, appointed
9 pursuant to section 34A.2A, as provided in chapter 34A,
10 subchapter II, and the authority shall have all of the powers
11 delegated to it by a ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency
12 management commission or the department of public defense in a
13 chapter 28E agreement with respect to the issuance and securing
14 of bonds or notes and the carrying out of the purposes of chapter
15 34A.

16 2. The authority shall provide a mechanism for the pooling
17 of funds of two or more ~~joint 911 service boards~~ local emergency
18 management commissions to be used for the joint purchasing of
19 necessary equipment and reimbursement of land-line and wireless
20 service providers' costs for upgrades necessary to provide 911
21 service. When two or more ~~joint 911 service boards~~ local
22 emergency management commissions have agreed to pool funds for
23 the purpose of purchasing necessary equipment to be used in
24 providing 911 service, the authority shall issue bonds and notes
25 as provided in sections 34A.20 through 34A.22.

26 Sec. 13. Section 34A.2, subsection 5, paragraph d,
27 subparagraph (1), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended
28 to read as follows:

29 A statement of estimated costs to be incurred by the ~~joint~~
30 ~~911 service board~~ local emergency management commission or the
31 department of public safety, including separate estimates of the
32 following:

33 Sec. 14. Section 34A.7, subsection 1, paragraph b,
34 subparagraph (1), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

35 (1) The program manager shall notify a local exchange service

1 provider scheduled to provide exchange access line service to a
2 911 service area that implementation of a 911 service plan has
3 been approved by the ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency
4 management commission and that collection of the surcharge is to
5 begin within sixty days.

6 Sec. 15. Section 34A.7, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2026,
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 a. The surcharge shall be collected as part of the access
9 line service provider's periodic billing to a subscriber. In
10 compensation for the costs of billing and collection, the local
11 exchange service provider may retain one percent of the gross
12 surcharges collected. If the compensation is insufficient to
13 fully recover a local exchange service provider's costs for
14 billing and collection of the surcharge, the deficiency shall
15 be included in the local exchange service provider's costs for
16 ratemaking purposes to the extent it is reasonable and just
17 under section 476.6. The surcharge shall be remitted to the
18 ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management commission for
19 deposit into the 911 service fund quarterly by the local exchange
20 service provider. The total amount for multiple exchanges may be
21 combined.

22 Sec. 16. Section 34A.7, subsection 2, paragraph c, unnumbered
23 paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

24 The ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management
25 commission may request, not more than once each quarter, the
26 following information from the local exchange service provider:

27 Sec. 17. Section 34A.7, subsection 4, Code 2026, is amended
28 to read as follows:

29 4. *911 service fund.* Each ~~joint 911 service board~~ local
30 emergency management commission shall establish and maintain as
31 a separate account a 911 service fund. Any funds remaining in
32 the account at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to
33 the general funds of the member political subdivisions, except as
34 provided in subsection 5, but shall remain in the 911 service
35 fund. Moneys in a 911 service fund may only be used for

1 nonrecurring and recurring costs of the 911 service plan as
2 approved by the program manager, as those terms are defined by
3 section 34A.2.

4 Sec. 18. Section 34A.7, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code 2026,
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 a. Moneys deposited in a 911 service fund shall be used for
7 the repayment of any bonds issued for the benefit of or loan
8 made to the ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management
9 commission pursuant to sections 34A.20 through 34A.22, and as
10 long as any such bond or loan remains unpaid the surcharge shall
11 not be reduced or eliminated. Moneys deposited in the fund shall
12 be subject to such terms and conditions as may be contained in
13 the relevant bond documents, trust indenture, resolution, loan
14 agreement, or other instrument pursuant to which bonds are issued
15 or a loan is made, without regard to any limitation otherwise
16 provided by law.

17 Sec. 19. Section 34A.7A, subsection 2, paragraph b,
18 subparagraph (1), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

19 (1) The program manager shall allocate to each ~~joint 911~~
20 ~~service board~~ local emergency management commission and to the
21 department of public safety a minimum of one thousand dollars per
22 calendar quarter for each public safety answering point within
23 the service area of the department of public safety or ~~joint 911~~
24 ~~service board~~ local emergency management commission.

25 Sec. 20. Section 34A.7A, subsection 2, paragraph b,
26 subparagraph (2), subparagraph division (c), Code 2026, is
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (c) Notwithstanding subparagraph divisions (a) and (b), the
29 minimum amount allocated to each ~~joint 911 service board~~ local
30 emergency management commission and to the department of public
31 safety shall be no less than one thousand dollars for each public
32 safety answering point within the service area of the department
33 of public safety or ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency
34 management commission.

35 Sec. 21. Section 34A.7A, subsection 2, paragraph d,

1 subparagraph (2), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) The program manager may also provide grants to ~~joint 911~~
3 ~~service boards~~ local emergency management commissions and the
4 department of public safety for the purpose of developing and
5 maintaining GIS data to be used in support of the next generation
6 911 network. The program manager shall provide guidelines,
7 application forms, and notice of the availability of such grants
8 on the department's internet site.

9 Sec. 22. Section 34A.7A, subsection 2, paragraph g, Code
10 2026, is amended to read as follows:

11 g. The director, in consultation with the program manager and
12 the 911 communications council, shall adopt rules pursuant to
13 chapter 17A governing the distribution of the surcharge collected
14 and distributed pursuant to this subsection. The rules shall
15 include provisions that all ~~joint 911 service boards~~ local
16 emergency management commissions and the department of public
17 safety ~~which~~ that answer or service wireless 911 calls are
18 eligible to receive an equitable portion of the receipts.

19 Sec. 23. Section 34A.7A, subsection 5, paragraphs a and c,
20 Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

21 a. The program manager, in consultation with the 911
22 communications council and the auditor of state, shall establish
23 a methodology for determining and collecting public safety
24 answering point cost and expense data through the ~~county joint~~
25 ~~911 service boards~~ local emergency management commissions. The
26 methodology shall include the collection of data for direct
27 costs and expenses related to the operation of a public safety
28 answering point and account for the extent to which identified
29 costs and expenses are compensated for or addressed through 911
30 surcharges versus other sources of funding.

31 c. A ~~county joint 911 service board~~ local emergency
32 management commission ~~that~~ fails to submit expenses and costs
33 pursuant to the methodology developed pursuant to paragraph "a"
34 by March 31 of each year shall be allocated sixty-five cents out
35 of the one dollar 911 emergency communications service surcharge

1 until March 31 of the following year. Remaining funds shall be
 2 held in the carryover operating surplus fund until the expenses
 3 and cost report is submitted by the ~~county joint 911 service~~
 4 ~~board~~ local emergency management commission. If the ~~county joint~~
 5 ~~911 service board~~ local emergency management commission submits
 6 the expense and cost report before March 30 of the following
 7 year, the set aside funds shall be provided to the ~~county joint~~
 8 ~~911 service board~~ local emergency management commission. If
 9 the ~~county joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management
 10 commission fails to submit the expense and cost report within one
 11 year, funds shall revert to the carryover operating surplus fund
 12 and be used in accordance with subsection 2, paragraph "f".

13 Sec. 24. Section 34A.8, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2026,
 14 is amended to read as follows:

15 b. The director, program manager, ~~joint 911 service board,~~
 16 local emergency management commission established pursuant to
 17 section 29C.9, the designated next generation 911 network service
 18 provider, and the public safety answering point, and their
 19 agents, employees, and assigns, shall use local exchange service
 20 information provided by the local exchange service provider
 21 solely for the purposes of providing 911 emergency telephone
 22 service or providing related mass notification and emergency
 23 messaging services as described in section 29C.17A utilizing
 24 only the subscriber's information, and local exchange service
 25 information shall otherwise be kept confidential. A person who
 26 violates this paragraph is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

27 Sec. 25. Section 34A.12, Code 2026, is amended to read as
 28 follows:

29 **34A.12 Delivery of 911 calls — reimbursement.**

30 The program manager may request reimbursement from each ~~joint~~
 31 ~~911 service board~~ local emergency management commission for
 32 reasonable costs under section 34A.7A related to the delivery
 33 of 911 call traffic to public safety answering points. Upon
 34 request, each ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management
 35 commission shall reimburse the department of homeland security

1 and emergency management for such costs within thirty days.

2 Sec. 26. Section 34A.21, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
3 2026, is amended to read as follows:

4 c. The amounts on deposit in the 911 service fund of a
5 ~~joint 911 service board~~ local emergency management commission,
6 including, but not limited to revenues from a local option 911
7 service surcharge.

8 Sec. 27. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act, being
9 deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

10 EXPLANATION

11 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

13 This bill relates to public safety answering points,
14 including setting limitations, property tax allocation, service
15 requirements, management, consolidation, transfer of duties
16 from joint 911 service boards to local emergency management
17 commissions, and reporting requirements.

18 DIVISION I — PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINTS. The bill
19 authorizes the Iowa finance authority to exercise the same
20 bonding and fund-pooling powers when delegated by a local
21 emergency management commission as currently allowed when
22 delegated by a joint 911 service board.

23 The bill requires each local emergency management commission
24 to annually submit to the department of homeland security and
25 emergency management (department) a five-year plan addressing
26 anticipated 911 service infrastructure needs and an inventory
27 of personnel, equipment, structures, and public safety agency
28 equipment within the commission's jurisdiction. The department
29 must publish this information on its internet site.

30 The bill requires each public safety answering point that
31 accesses criminal justice information to comply with the security
32 policy of the federal bureau of investigation's criminal justice
33 information services and any requirements imposed by the Iowa
34 department of public safety.

35 The bill requires a local emergency management commission to

1 maintain a countywide 911 service plan unless an exemption is
2 granted. The bill limits each county to not more than one PSAP,
3 with exceptions relating to certain cities and for PSAPs operated
4 by the national guard, any branch of the armed forces of the
5 United States, or the department of public safety.

6 The bill requires a city located in more than one county
7 to enter into an agreement with the counties and the local
8 emergency management commissions serving the city to determine
9 how 911 calls originating from the city are allocated to the
10 public safety answering points in the counties where the city is
11 located.

12 The bill requires all PSAPs within a county to maintain
13 communications capabilities with each other and all public safety
14 agencies in the county.

15 The bill requires each joint 911 service board existing on
16 the effective date of the bill to submit to the department by
17 December 31, 2026, a letter of intent to consolidate all public
18 safety answering points within the county to one and transfer all
19 funds, debts, contract rights, and obligations to the applicable
20 commission by December 31, 2031. The bill also requires each
21 county to submit a plan to the department by December 31, 2027,
22 detailing how the county will reform or consolidate within the
23 required time frame.

24 The bill provides that an employee employed by a public safety
25 answering point that is discontinued due to consolidation must be
26 given a hiring preference for one year following the employee's
27 last date of employment with the public safety answering point
28 for any similar position with another public safety answering
29 point in Iowa.

30 The bill provides that a county that contains more than one
31 public safety answering point after December 31, 2031, is only
32 allocated \$1.00 out of the \$1.20 surcharge implemented under
33 Code section 34A.7A, as amended by the bill. The bill directs
34 the remaining allocation to be distributed evenly to all other
35 compliant counties.

1 The consolidation requirements of the bill do not apply to
2 counties with only one public safety answering point or to
3 public safety answering points operated by the national guard,
4 any branch of the armed forces of the United States, or the
5 department of public safety.

6 The bill requires the transfer of all funds, debts, contract
7 rights, and obligations of each joint 911 service board to the
8 local emergency management commission by December 31, 2031.

9 The bill provides that the local emergency management
10 commission and its member political subdivisions are responsible
11 for the costs of providing 911 service. The bill directs
12 property tax revenues to support PSAP operations to be paid only
13 to the commission that operates the primary PSAP serving the
14 political subdivision.

15 Under current law, there is a surcharge of \$1.00 per month
16 on each access line and originating service number for purposes
17 of supporting 911 service. The bill increases this surcharge to
18 \$1.20 per month and makes conforming changes.

19 Under current law, joint 911 service boards have numerous
20 duties, powers, and responsibilities concerning 911 services.
21 The bill requires local emergency management commissions to take
22 over the current joint 911 service boards' responsibilities,
23 including the maintenance of a 911 service plan, strikes
24 provisions concerning formation of joint 911 service boards,
25 waivers, and alternatives to joint 911 service boards, and makes
26 certain conforming changes to signify this transfer.

27 The bill continues existing requirements that PSAP cost and
28 expense data be submitted annually to the program manager,
29 and applies the statutory allocation reductions and reversion
30 consequences to a commission that fails to timely submit required
31 information.

32 Division I of the bill takes effect upon enactment.

33 DIVISION II — CONFORMING CHANGES. The bill makes conforming
34 changes, in addition to the changes made in division I of the
35 bill, to signify local emergency management commissions taking

1 over the duties, powers, and responsibilities of joint 911
2 service boards.

3 Division II of the bill takes effect upon enactment.

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