

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with Senate Amendments**

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1409**

Introduced by

Representatives Koppelman, Pietsch, Severson

Senators Klein, Tallackson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 57-40.6 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the dispatching of ambulances and standards and guidelines for 911  
3 telephone systems.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** Two new sections to chapter 57-40.6 of the North Dakota Century Code  
6 are created and enacted as follows:

7 **Standards and guidelines.**

- 8 1. The governing body of the local governmental unit with jurisdiction over an  
9 emergency 911 telephone system shall be or shall designate a governing  
10 committee of the emergency 911 telephone system which shall:
- 11 a. Designate a 911 coordinator.
  - 12 b. Enter written agreements with participating organizations and agencies.
  - 13 c. Designate lines of authority.
  - 14 d. Provide for a written plan for rural addressing, if applicable, which has been  
15 coordinated with the local postal authorities. After January 1, 1993, a rural  
16 plan must conform to the modified burkle addressing plan. A plan in use  
17 before this date does not have to conform with the modified burkle addressing  
18 plan. If implemented, all rural addressing signs must comply with the manual  
19 on uniform traffic control devices standards.
  - 20 e. Provide for an update of the emergency 911 telephone system's data base  
21 annually by obtaining current records from the appropriate  
22 telecommunications company.
  - 23 f. Define a records retention plan for all printed and recorded records in  
24 accordance with jurisdictional requirements.

- 1 g. Encourage that coin-free dialing is available for 911 calls.
- 2 h. Define a mechanism to differentiate between emergency 911 telephone calls
- 3 from other calls.
- 4 i. Provide for written operating procedures.
- 5 j. Require the public safety answering point that initially receives an emergency
- 6 call to be responsible for handling that call. If a transfer of an emergency call
- 7 is made to a secondary public safety answering point, the initial public safety
- 8 answering point may not disconnect from the three-way call unless mutually
- 9 agreed upon by the two public safety answering point dispatchers. Upon this
- 10 agreement, the secondary public safety answering point becomes responsible
- 11 for the call.
- 12 k. Beginning June 1, 2002, ensure that the closest available emergency medical
- 13 service is dispatched to the scene of medical emergencies regardless of city,
- 14 county, or district boundaries. The state department of health shall provide
- 15 emergency 911 telephone systems with necessary geographical information
- 16 to assist in the implementation of this subdivision.
- 17 2. The governing committee may:
  - 18 a. Require appropriate liability protection.
  - 19 b. Create a user advisory board.
  - 20 c. Conduct an annual statistical evaluation of services.
  - 21 d. Publish an annual financial report in the official county newspaper.
- 22 3. An emergency 911 telephone system must access and dispatch the following
- 23 services:
  - 24 a. Law enforcement.
  - 25 b. Fire service.
  - 26 c. Emergency medical service.
- 27 4. An emergency 911 telephone system may access and dispatch the following
- 28 services:
  - 29 a. Poison control.
  - 30 b. Suicide prevention.
  - 31 c. Emergency management.

- 1           d. Any other related service in subsection 3 or 4.
- 2           5. The governing committee of an emergency 911 telephone system shall provide
- 3           that that system:
- 4           a. Provides twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-week coverage.
- 5           b. Dispatches and communicates with service identified in subsection 3.
- 6           c. Records all incoming 911 calls and related radio and telephone
- 7           communications.
- 8           d. Provides alternate measures in the event of an emergency 911 telephone
- 9           system failure, including an alternate public safety answering point seven-digit
- 10           number.
- 11           e. Ensures an adequate grade of service that is statistically based by population
- 12           to assure access to an emergency 911 telephone system.
- 13           f. Does not accept one-way call-in alarms or devices.
- 14           g. Provides access to an emergency 911 telephone system through specialized
- 15           telecommunications equipment as defined under section 54-44.8-01.
- 16           6. An emergency 911 telephone system may:
- 17           a. Locate the emergency caller utilizing electronic equipment.
- 18           b. Provide a mechanism for investigating false or prank calls.
- 19           7. An emergency 911 telephone system must include at least one public safety
- 20           answering point.
- 21           8. A cellular 911 call must be routed to the appropriate 911 public safety answering
- 22           point.
- 23           9. An emergency 911 telephone call must be answered by a dispatcher who has
- 24           completed training through an association of public safety communications officials
- 25           course or equivalent course. An emergency 911 dispatch center is required to
- 26           offer emergency medical dispatch instructions on all emergency medical calls.
- 27           Prearrival instructions must be offered by a dispatcher who has completed an
- 28           emergency medical dispatch course approved by the division of emergency health
- 29           services. Prearrival medical instructions may be given through a mutual aid
- 30           agreement.

- 1           **Annual report to legislative council.** State radio, in cooperation with entities affected
- 2 by this Act, shall facilitate the review of emergency 911 telephone system standards and
- 3 guidelines and shall report annually to the legislative council on the operation of and any
- 4 recommended changes in the standards and guidelines.