

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 345
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H345-PCS70367-RV-27

Short Title: Increase Penalties for Misuse of 911 System.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 20, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR MISUSE OF THE 911
3 SYSTEM, TO PROVIDE THAT THE POLICE CHIEF APPOINTED TO THE 911
4 BOARD SHALL BE APPOINTED UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NORTH
5 CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, TO EXTEND THE DATE FOR
6 IMPLEMENTATION OF OPERATING STANDARDS SET BY THE 911 BOARD, AND
7 TO PROVIDE FOR A STUDY OF 911 SERVICE BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE
8 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

9 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

10 SECTION 1. G.S. 14-111.4 reads as rewritten:

11 "§ 14-111.4. Misuse of 911 system.

12 It is unlawful for an individual who is not seeking public safety assistance, is not providing
13 911 service, or is not responding to a 911 call to access or attempt to access the 911 system for
14 a purpose other than an emergency communication. A person who knowingly violates this
15 section commits a ~~Class 3 misdemeanor. If a person knowingly accesses or attempts to access~~
16 ~~the 911 system for the purpose of avoiding a charge for voice communications service, as~~
17 ~~defined in G.S. 62A-40, and the value of the charge exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100.00), the~~
18 ~~person commits a Class 1 misdemeanor."~~

19 SECTION 2. G.S. 62A-41 reads as rewritten:

20 "§ 62A-41. 911 Board.

21 (a) Membership. – The 911 Board is established in the Office of Information
22 Technology Services. Neither a local government unit that receives a distribution from the fund
23 under G.S. 62A-46 nor a telecommunication service provider may have more than one
24 representative on the 911 Board. The 911 Board consists of 17 members as follows:

25 ...

26 (3) Six members appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation
27 of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate as follows:

- 28 a. An individual who is a chief of ~~police~~ police, appointed upon the
29 recommendation of the North Carolina Association of Chiefs of
30 Police.
31 b. Two individuals who represent CMRS providers operating in North
32 Carolina.
33 c. A Rescue or Emergency Medical Services Chief with experience
34 operating or supervising a PSAP, appointed upon the
35 recommendation of the North Carolina Association of Rescue and
36 Emergency Medical Services.



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1 d. Two individuals who represent local exchange carriers operating in
2 North Carolina, one of whom represents a local exchange carrier
3 with less than 200,000 access lines.

4"

5 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of Session Law 2012-132 reads as rewritten:

6 "**SECTION 1.** No operating standards set by the 911 Board pursuant to Article 3 of
7 Chapter 62A of the General Statutes shall be effective until ~~January 1, 2014.~~ January 1, 2015."

8 **SECTION 4.** The Joint Legislative Emergency Management Oversight Committee
9 shall study the following issues and report its findings and recommendations to the General
10 Assembly on or before January 31, 2014:

- 11 (1) Composition of the 911 Board and appropriate placement of the 911 Board
12 within State government.
- 13 (2) Development of operating standards for Public Safety Answering Points
14 (PSAPs).
- 15 (3) Development of standards for, and delivery of, training and certification for
16 telecommunicators assigned to PSAPs.
- 17 (4) Consideration of "next generation" 911 service and the State's role in
18 addressing development and costs involved.
- 19 (5) Administration of the 911 fund.

20 **SECTION 5.** Section 1 of this act becomes effective December 1, 2013, and
21 applies to offenses committed on or after that date. The remainder of this act is effective when
22 it becomes law.