

Sixty-fourth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1395**

Introduced by

Representatives J. Nelson, D. Johnson, Maragos

Senator Oehlke

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 57-40.6 of the North Dakota~~  
2 ~~Century Code, relating to the creation and funding of an emergency information program; to~~  
3 ~~amend and reenact section 57-40.6-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to~~  
4 ~~definitions; and to provide an appropriation~~for an Act to provide for a legislative management  
5 study of an emergency information program.

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

7 ~~— **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-40.6-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is~~  
8 ~~amended and reenacted as follows:~~

9 ~~— **57-40.6-01. Definitions.**~~

10 ~~— In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:~~

11 ~~— 1. "Assessed communications service" means a software service, communication~~  
12 ~~connection, cable or broadband transport facilities, or a combination of these facilities,~~  
13 ~~between a billed retail end user and a service provider's network that provides the end~~  
14 ~~user, upon dialing 911, access to a public safety answering point through a permissible~~  
15 ~~interconnection to the dedicated 911 network. The term includes telephone exchange~~  
16 ~~access service, wireless service, and voice over internet protocol service.~~

17 ~~— 2. "Automated notification system" means that portion of a telecommunications system~~  
18 ~~that provides rapid notice of emergency situations to the public.~~

19 ~~— 3. "Commissioner" means the state tax commissioner.~~

20 ~~— 4. "Communication connection" means a telephone access line, wireless access line,~~  
21 ~~unique voice over internet protocol service connection, or functional equivalent~~  
22 ~~uniquely identifiable by a number, internet address, or other designation.~~

23 ~~— 5. "Consumer" means a person who purchases prepaid wireless service in a retail~~  
24 ~~transaction.~~

~~6. "Emergency information program" means a supplemental 9-1-1 and emergency management database to be used in emergency scenarios.~~

~~6.7. "Emergency services communication system" means a statewide, countywide, or citywide radio system, land lines communication network, wireless service network, or enhanced 911 (E911) telephone system, which provides rapid public access for coordinated dispatching of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities for law enforcement, fire, medical, or other emergency services.~~

~~7.8. "FCC order" means federal communications commission order 94-102 [961 Federal Register 40348] and any other FCC order that affects the provision of wireless enhanced 911 service.~~

~~8.9. "Prepaid wireless emergency 911 fee" means the fee that is required to be collected by a seller from a consumer in the amount established under section 57-40.6-14.~~

~~9.10. "Prepaid wireless service" means any telecommunications service that provides the right to use a mobile wireless service as well as other nontelecommunications services, including the download of digital products delivered electronically, content and ancillary services, which are paid for in advance and sold in predetermined units or dollars which decline with use in a known amount.~~

~~10.11. "Prepaid wireless service provider" means any person that provides prepaid wireless telecommunications service pursuant to a license issued by the federal communications commission.~~

~~11.12. "Public safety answering point" or "PSAP" means a communications facility or combination of facilities operated on a twenty-four-hour basis which first receives 911 calls from persons in a 911 service area and which, as appropriate, may directly dispatch public safety services or extend, transfer, or relay 911 calls to appropriate public safety agencies.~~

~~12.13. "Public safety answering point service area" means the geographic area for which a public safety answering point has dispatch and emergency communications responsibility.~~

~~13.14. "Public safety telecommunicator" means an individual whose primary full-time or part-time duties are receiving, processing, and transmitting public safety information received through an emergency services communication system.~~

~~14.15. "Retail transaction" means the purchase of prepaid wireless service from a seller for any purpose other than resale.~~

~~15.16. "Seller" means a person who sells prepaid wireless services to a consumer.~~

~~16.17. "Subscriber service address" means, for purposes of wire line subscribers, the address where the telephone subscriber's wire line telephone device is used and, for purposes of wireless subscribers, the place of primary use, as that term is defined in section 57-34.1-02.~~

~~17.18. "Telephone access line" means the principal access to the telephone company's switched network, including an outward dialed trunk or access register.~~

~~18.19. "Telephone exchange access service" means service to any wire line telephone access line identified by a unique telephone number that provides local wire line access to the telecommunications network to a service subscriber and which enables the subscriber to access the emergency services communications system by dialing the digits 9-1-1 on the subscriber's telephone device.~~

~~19.20. "Unpublished" means information that is not published or available from directory assistance.~~

~~20.21. "Voice over internet protocol service" means a service that enables real-time two-way voice communications; requires a broadband connection from the user's location; requires internet protocol-compatible customer premises equipment; and permits users generally to receive calls that originate on the public switched telephone network and to terminate calls to the public switched telephone network.~~

~~21.22. "Wireless access line" means each active wireless and prepaid wireless telephone number assigned to a commercial mobile radio service subscriber, including end users of resellers.~~

~~22.23. "Wireless enhanced 911 service" means the service required to be provided by wireless service providers pursuant to the FCC order.~~

~~23.24. "Wireless service" means commercial mobile radio service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 332(d)(1) and includes:~~

~~———— a. Services commonly referred to as wireless; and~~

~~———— b. Services provided by any wireless real-time two-way voice communication device, including radio-telephone communications used in:~~

- 1 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (1) Cellular telephone service;~~
- 2 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (2) Personal communications service; or~~
- 3 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (3) The functional or competitive equivalent of a radio telephone~~  
4 ~~communications line used in cellular telephone service, personal~~  
5 ~~communications service, or a network radio access line.~~

6 ~~24.25. "Wireless service provider" means any entity authorized by the federal~~  
7 ~~communications commission to provide wireless service within this state.~~

8 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 57-40.6 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
9 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

10 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ **Emergency information program – Generally.**~~

- 11 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 1. The emergency information program must be a hosted supplemental 9-1-1 and~~  
12 ~~emergency management database and must be used by all public safety answering~~  
13 ~~points and emergency management agencies within the state. The supplemental~~  
14 ~~database may allow individuals to provide information to be used in emergency~~  
15 ~~scenarios and planning. The emergency information program service must:~~
- 16 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. Allow for the collection of a variety of formatted data relevant to 9-1-1, emergency~~  
17 ~~management, and other public safety agencies. The formatted data must include~~  
18 ~~photographs of the individual, physical descriptions, medical conditions, allergies,~~  
19 ~~household data, primary language indicator, and emergency contacts;~~
- 20 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. Allow for individuals to enter formatted data through a secure website at their~~  
21 ~~discretion;~~
- 22 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. Be compliant with all accessibility elements of section 508 of the Rehabilitation~~  
23 ~~Act of 1973 [29 U.S.C. 749d];~~
- 24 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ d. Manage the currency of the data through an aging and reminder process, at least~~  
25 ~~twice per year, requesting community members to keep their data up to date;~~
- 26 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ e. Automatically display data provided by individuals to 9-1-1 call takers for all types~~  
27 ~~of telephones including landlines, mobile telephones, and voice over internet~~  
28 ~~protocol service when a call is placed to 9-1-1 from a registered and confirmed~~  
29 ~~phone number;~~
- 30 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ f. Support the delivery of community member information through a secure internet~~  
31 ~~connection to all public safety answering points within North Dakota;~~

1 ~~g. Ensure that service is operational across all 9-1-1 call taking equipment in North-~~  
2 ~~Dakota and allow for the easy transfer of information into computer-aided~~  
3 ~~dispatch or records management systems;~~

4 ~~h. Provide decision support to emergency management through the collection,~~  
5 ~~aggregation, and visualization of community members across the United States~~  
6 ~~through existing emergency information program databases;~~

7 ~~i. Allow local communities to tailor data collected based on their unique regional~~  
8 ~~requirements;~~

9 ~~j. Make data available to first responders; and~~

10 ~~k. Be compatible with all future 9-1-1 systems.~~

11 ~~2. Public safety and emergency management agencies shall make reasonable efforts to~~  
12 ~~publicize the emergency information program through pamphlets, social media,~~  
13 ~~neighborhood watch programs, community policing programs, television, municipal~~  
14 ~~notification systems, and websites.~~

15 ~~3. When special needs information is made available with the 9-1-1 call, the~~  
16 ~~telecommunicator, where appropriate, shall relay that information to responding~~  
17 ~~personnel.~~

18 ~~4. The information gathered as part of the emergency information program shall remain~~  
19 ~~strictly confidential. The information shall be used only to provide assistance to 9-1-1~~  
20 ~~telecommunicators, first responders, and emergency personnel. A public safety worker~~  
21 ~~may not knowingly violate this confidentiality clause.~~

22 ~~5. Individuals participating in the emergency information program must be advised~~  
23 ~~that the provision of special needs information will not result in preferential treatment.~~

24 ~~— **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the~~  
25 ~~general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$950,000, or~~  
26 ~~so much of the sum as may be necessary, for the implementation and operation of an~~  
27 ~~emergency information program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending~~  
28 ~~June 30, 2017.~~

29 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY.** During the 2015-16 interim, the  
30 legislative management shall consider studying the benefit a statewide emergency information  
31 program would have on the current 911 and emergency services communication systems. An

1 emergency information program is a supplemental 911 and emergency management database  
2 that would be used in emergency scenarios and allow for the collection of a variety of formatted  
3 data relevant to 911, emergency management, and other public safety agencies. The study  
4 must include a review of any gap in the efficiency and services provided by the current 911 and  
5 emergency services communication systems employed in this state, and the technological  
6 advances and the needs of the residents of this state. The study may include research into the  
7 degree that a statewide emergency information program could benefit the current 911 and  
8 emergency services communication systems by filling current gaps, addressing school safety  
9 concerns and the unique challenges presented by the rapidly expanding western portion of our  
10 state due to oil activity, and promoting the health and welfare of our state. The legislative  
11 management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation  
12 required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fifth legislative assembly.