

Fifty-seventh
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1409

Introduced by

Representatives Koppelman, Pietsch, Severson

Senators Klein, Tallackson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-27 and two new sections to
2 chapter 57-40.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the dispatching of ambulances
3 and standards and guidelines for 911 telephone systems; and to provide an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** If House Bill No. 1202 of the fifty-seventh legislative assembly does not
6 become effective, a new section to chapter 23-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **Ambulance service dispatch in emergencies.** If an ambulance service licensed
9 under this chapter receives a request for emergency medical services, the closest ambulance
10 service must be dispatched to the site at which the emergency medical services are needed,
11 regardless of city, county, or district boundaries.

12 **SECTION 2.** If House Bill No. 1202 of the fifty-seventh legislative assembly becomes
13 effective, a new section to chapter 23-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
14 enacted as follows:

15 **Ambulance service dispatch in emergencies.** If an emergency medical service
16 operation licensed under this chapter receives a request for emergency medical services, the
17 closest emergency medical service operation must be dispatched to the site at which the
18 emergency medical services are needed, regardless of city, county, or district boundaries.

19 **SECTION 3.** Two new sections to chapter 57-40.6 of the North Dakota Century Code
20 are created and enacted as follows:

21 **Standards and guidelines.**

22 1. The governing body of the local governmental unit with jurisdiction over an
23 emergency 911 telephone system shall be or shall designate a governing
24 committee of the emergency 911 telephone system which shall:

- 1 a. Designate a 911 coordinator.
- 2 b. Enter written agreements with participating organizations and agencies.
- 3 c. Designate lines of authority.
- 4 d. Provide for a written plan for rural addressing, if applicable, which has been
- 5 coordinated with the local postal authorities. After January 1, 1993, a rural
- 6 plan must conform to the modified burkle addressing plan. A plan in use
- 7 before this date does not have to conform with the modified burkle addressing
- 8 plan. If implemented, all rural addressing signs must comply with the manual
- 9 on uniform traffic control devices standards.
- 10 e. Provide for an update of the emergency 911 telephone system's data base
- 11 annually by obtaining current records from the appropriate
- 12 telecommunications company.
- 13 f. Define a records retention plan with all records to be maintained for at least
- 14 one year.
- 15 g. Encourage that coin-free dialing is available.
- 16 h. Define a mechanism to differentiate between emergency 911 telephone calls
- 17 from other calls.
- 18 i. Provide for written operating procedures.
- 19 j. Require the public safety answering point that initially receives an emergency
- 20 call to be responsible for handling that call. If a transfer of an emergency call
- 21 is made to a secondary public safety answering point, the initial public safety
- 22 answering point may not disconnect from the three-way call unless mutually
- 23 agreed upon by the two public safety answering point dispatchers. Upon this
- 24 agreement, the secondary public safety answering point becomes responsible
- 25 for the call.
- 26 k. Beginning February 1, 2002, ensure that the closest available emergency
- 27 medical service is dispatched to the scene of emergencies regardless of city,
- 28 county, or district boundaries. The state department of health shall provide
- 29 emergency 911 telephone systems with necessary geographical information
- 30 to assist in the implementation of this subdivision.
- 31 2. The governing committee may:

- 1 a. Require appropriate liability protection.
- 2 b. Create a user advisory board.
- 3 c. Conduct an annual statistical evaluation of services.
- 4 d. Publish an annual financial report in the official county newspaper.
- 5 3. An emergency 911 telephone system must access and dispatch the following
- 6 services:
- 7 a. Law enforcement.
- 8 b. Fire service.
- 9 c. Emergency medical service.
- 10 4. An emergency 911 telephone system may access and dispatch the following
- 11 services:
- 12 a. Poison control.
- 13 b. Suicide prevention.
- 14 c. Emergency management.
- 15 d. Any other related service in subsection 3 or 4.
- 16 5. The governing committee of an emergency 911 telephone system shall provide
- 17 that that system:
- 18 a. Provides twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-week coverage.
- 19 b. Dispatches and communicates with service identified in subsection 3.
- 20 c. Records all incoming 911 calls and related radio and telephone
- 21 communications.
- 22 d. Provides alternate measures in the event of an emergency 911 telephone
- 23 system failure, including an alternate public safety answering point seven-digit
- 24 number.
- 25 e. Ensures an adequate grade of service that is statistically based by population
- 26 to assure access to an emergency 911 telephone system.
- 27 f. Does not accept one-way call-in alarms or devices.
- 28 g. Provides access to an emergency 911 telephone system through specialized
- 29 telecommunications equipment as defined under section 54-44.8-01.
- 30 6. An emergency 911 telephone system may:
- 31 a. Locate the emergency caller utilizing electronic equipment.

b. Provide a mechanism for investigating false or prank calls.

7. An emergency 911 telephone system must include at least one public safety answering point.

8. A cellular 911 call must be routed to the nearest available 911 public safety answering point from the cellular site.

9. An emergency 911 telephone call must be answered by a dispatcher who has completed training through an association of public safety communications officials course or equivalent course. An emergency 911 dispatch center is required to offer emergency medical dispatch instructions on all emergency medical calls. Prearrival instructions must be offered by a dispatcher who has completed an emergency medical dispatch course approved by the division of emergency health services. Prearrival medical instructions may be given through a mutual aid agreement.

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

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 1 and 2 of this Act become effective on February 1, 2002.