VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2001 SESSION

CHAPTER 713

An Act to amend and reenact § 56-484.16 of the Code of Virginia, relating to local emergency telecommunications requirements.

[H 1611]

Approved March 26, 2001

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 56-484.16 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 56-484.16. Local emergency telecommunications requirements; use of digits "9-1-1."

A. *Except as provided in subsection D*, all county, city or town PSAPs that as of July 1, 2000, are operating a wireline E-911 system and capable of receiving wireless 911 calls directly shall begin answering wireless 911 and E-911 calls no later than July 1, 2002, unless an extension of time has been granted by the Board. *Except as provided in subsection D*, all other county, city or town PSAPs shall begin answering and responding to wireless 911 and E-911 calls no later than July 1, 2003, unless an extension of time has been granted by the Board. The digits "9-1-1" shall be the designated wireless emergency telephone number in Virginia. No public safety agency shall advertise or otherwise promote the use of any telephone number for emergency response services other than "9-1-1."

B. *Except as provided in subsection D*, on or before July 1, 2003, every county, city or town in the Commonwealth shall be operating a wireline E-911 system, unless an extension of time has been granted by the Board.

C. The digits "9-1-1" shall be the designated emergency telephone number in Virginia. No public safety agency shall advertise or otherwise promote the use of any number for emergency response service other than "9-1-1."

D. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any county, city, or town in which (i) fifty percent or more of the locality's geographic area is unable to receive wireless telephone service; (ii) no taxes are imposed for E-911 services pursuant to § 58.1-3813.1; and (iii) the Board has designated a specific PSAP or the Virginia State Police to answer wireless 911 and wireless E-911 calls originating in the particular locality, and the designated entity agrees to answer wireless 911 and wireless E-911 calls.