

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB418

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Barker

3. Committee: Commerce and Labor

4. Title: Public safety answering points; deployment of text-to-9-1-1.

5. Summary: Requires each public safety answering point (PSAP), by July 1, 2020, to be able to receive and process calls for emergency assistance sent via text message.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No state fiscal impact

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill creates a requirement that localities implement text to 9-1-1 capabilities. There may be a local cost to do so, but there is grant funding available to localities through the 9-1-1 Board that could be used to offset the cost. The Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) indicates that Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) have two options for implementing text to 9-1-1 capabilities. The first option integrates text to 9-1-1 capabilities into the PSAPs existing telephone equipment and system. This option would require the locality to incur a cost, but VITA indicates that this activity is eligible for grant funding provided by the 9-1-1 Services Board. The grant program is currently funded by 10 percent of revenues generated by the \$0.75 E911 wireless surcharge. VITA notes that PSAPs with older call handling equipment may not be capable of integration and would require a total system replacement. VITA notes that this type of upgrade is also eligible for grant funding but only up to a maximum of \$150,000.

A second option can be provided for free, per VITA, however it requires call takers at the PSAP to use a web browser client and monitor a separated computer screen. VITA indicates that the decision for which option to implement is up to each PSAP.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All localities with Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs)

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: SB513 would implement changes from E911 to NG911. Per VITA, NG911 features would include text to 9-1-1 capabilities, but requires additional infrastructure and system updates which explains the difference between the fiscal impact statement of this bill and the fiscal impact statement of SB513.

Date: January 24, 2018