

## Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB418

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

**2. Patron:** Barker

**3. Committee:** Passed Both Houses

**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: March 7, 2018