

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 901 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY BARRAR, SAINATO, STEVENSON, BOBACK, BROOKS, R. BROWN, CLYMER, D. COSTA, COX, CUTLER, DENLINGER, DERMODY, DONATUCCI, DUNBAR, FARRY, GIBBONS, GILLEN, GREINER, HACKETT, HARHAI, JAMES, KILLION, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, LAWRENCE, LONGIETTI, LUCAS, MARSHALL, MENTZER, MICCARELLI, MURT, O'NEILL, PEIFER, PYLE, RAPP, RAVENSTAHL, READSHAW, SACCONI, SONNEY, SWANGER, TALLMAN, TOBASH, GABLER, HARKINS, METCALFE, DeLUCA, BARBIN, PETRI, PAINTER AND COHEN, JUNE 13, 2014

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, JUNE 18, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging Governor Tom Corbett to terminate the 3rd party emergency
2 dispatch pilot program on behalf of the Commonwealth's towing
3 companies, towers and first responders.

4 WHEREAS, In 2011, the Pennsylvania State Police began looking
5 at implementing a program of 3rd party vendor dispatching for
6 emergency towing; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2013, the Pennsylvania State Police issued a
8 request for proposal to solicit interested businesses to submit
9 proposals to conduct a 3rd party vendor dispatching pilot
10 program; and

11 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police indicated that only
12 three entities submitted proposals; and

13 WHEREAS, In the fall of 2013, the Pennsylvania State Police
14 accepted a proposal submitted by a 3rd party vendor located in

1 California; and

2 WHEREAS, A contract was signed between the Pennsylvania State
3 Police and the vendor to conduct a pilot program beginning in
4 the northwestern part of this Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, The vendor began work in October and dispatched a
6 first tow on December 3, 2013; and

7 WHEREAS, Since the initiation of the 3rd party vendor
8 emergency dispatch program, many towing businesses and first
9 responders throughout this Commonwealth have expressed both
10 reservations and concerns about the implementation of the pilot
11 program; and

12 WHEREAS, A joint public hearing was conducted on the issue on
13 May 14, 2014, by both the Veterans Affairs and Emergency
14 Preparedness and Judiciary Committees of the House of
15 Representatives; and

16 WHEREAS, Testimony was provided by the Pennsylvania State
17 Police, the vendor and the Pennsylvania Towing Association, as
18 well as towers from the industry; and

19 WHEREAS, Several members from among the committees at the
20 joint public hearing have strongly expressed concern that the
21 3rd party emergency towing dispatch pilot program should be
22 terminated and that strong consideration should instead be
23 directed at utilizing Pennsylvanian's county 911 dispatch
24 centers, which currently dispatch police, fire and EMS services
25 across this Commonwealth; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives strongly urge
27 Governor Tom Corbett to ~~terminate~~ REEXAMINE the 3rd party
28 emergency dispatch pilot program on behalf of the Commonwealth's
29 towing companies, towers and first responders; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives express its

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1 interest in examining the use of the Commonwealth's county 911
2 dispatch centers; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives respectfully
4 request that the Governor establish a select committee made up
5 of representatives from the following areas of interest: the
6 Pennsylvania State Police, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management
7 Agency, the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania,
8 county 911 dispatchers, the Pennsylvania Towing Association, the
9 Towing and Recovery Association of America, the Pennsylvania
10 Association of Township Supervisors and the Pennsylvania
11 Association of Boroughs; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the
13 Governor.