

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1146

(Delegate Hurson)

Environmental Matters

Finance

Telecommunications - Abbreviated Dialing Task Force

This bill establishes a 15-member Abbreviated Dialing Task Force in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) to study the implementation and use of N11 systems, including financing, funding, and administration of N11 systems. The task force is to report by December 31, 2003 to the Governor, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Environmental Matters Committee. The task force must meet not less than once every three months, and DPSCS is to provide staff and technical support.

The bill is effective July 1, 2002 for a period of two years.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs for DPSCS are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: None applicable.

Background: N-1-1 systems use an abbreviated dialing code to enable callers to connect to a specific location without dialing a seven or ten-digit number. There are only eight possible N-1-1 numbers for use, because 011 and 111 are used for switching and routing

purposes. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has assigned some of the numbers for specific purposes as follows:

- 211 – assigned for community information and referral services;
- 311 – assigned nationwide for nonemergency police and other governmental services;
- 411 – unassigned but used nationwide by carriers for directory assistance;
- 511 – assigned for traffic and transportation information;
- 611 – unassigned but used by carriers for repair service;
- 711 – assigned nationwide for access to Telecom Relay Services;
- 811 – unassigned but used by local exchange carriers for business office use; and
- 911 – unassigned but used nationwide for emergency services.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County, Public Service Commission, Prince George's County, Garrett County, Department of Legislative Services (Office of Legislative Audits)

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