



**Testimony To The  
House Revenue Committee**

**HOUSE BILL 2075**

*By: Larry L. Hatch  
Oregon APCO/NENA Legislative Chair  
Washington County 9-1-1 Assistant Director*

Co-Chairs Barnhart and Berger, Committee Members;

I am here today representing Oregon APCO/NENA and the people who staff 9-1-1 centers across the State of Oregon. Our membership supports House Bill 2075 which brings equity to the collection of the 9-1-1 telephone tax. Support of the 9-1-1 system in the State of Oregon began with standard wire line phones in 1981. Technology changed over the years with the addition of cellular phones and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phones. As these various technologies came into the State they participated in our 9-1-1 program by collecting the 9-1-1 phone tax on monthly bills.

Now we have a hybrid in the cellular world, pre-paid wireless services. Customers who choose to purchase a phone with a block of minutes and not be tied to a monthly contract. Recent articles have documented this shift in the market and it will likely continue as customers choose to avoid early cancellation fees and save money on services only paying for those they use. In the fourth quarter of 2009 it was reported that 20% of wireless customers use prepaid wireless service, which was a 2% increase over the previous quarter.

This bill corrects this inequity and requires prepaid wireless customers support the Oregon 9-1-1 program. Colorado, Utah, Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi and Louisiana have passed similar legislation to bring pre-paid wireless in line with other wireless providers.

Public safety organizations from across the State support HB 2075 and those letters are attached to my written testimony.

The membership of Oregon APCO/NENA urges you to support of HB 2075.



Call Toll Free In Oregon 1-800-624-4405  
Salem (503) 364-4204  
Fax (503) 364 -2059

# Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

## *Conservators of the Peace*

January 31, 2011

Larry Hatch  
APCO/NENA Legislative Committee Chair  
WCCCA  
P.O. Box 14360  
Beaverton, Oregon 97006

Dear Mr. Hatch,

The Oregon State Sheriffs' Association (OSSA), which represents Oregon's 36 elected sheriffs, would like to offer this letter in support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program. The Sheriffs recognize that the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential funding component for the statewide 9-1-1 system, and that without stable, dedicated funding streams, the potential for risk to public safety personnel increases, and direct services to Oregon's citizens will be affected.

Oregon's Sheriffs understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans and customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently. This lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation, or "Next Gen", to allow the 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video, and pictures, as expected by the citizens. With a lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens is severely compromised. In conclusion, Oregon's 36 Sheriffs join the Intergovernmental Council for ECSO, Oregon APCO/NENA and the Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself, or OSSA Executive Director Holly Russell, if Oregon's Sheriffs can be of further assistance in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Bergin", is written over a horizontal line.

Sheriff Tom Bergin,  
Clatsop County Sheriff's Office  
President, OSSA

# Oregon

## Fire Chiefs' Association

727 Center Street NE #300 Salem, OR 97301

(888) 846-5741  
(503) 365-7893 fax  
ofca@ofca.org  
www.ofca.org

December 20, 2010,

Mr. Larry Hatch  
Oregon APCO/NENA  
17911 NW Evergreen Parkway  
Beaverton, OR 97006

Dear Mr. Hatch,

The Oregon Fire Chief's Association is the statewide primary resource and advocate for the Oregon Fire Service. OFCA represents over 550 Fire Officers who are dedicated to protecting the citizens of Oregon, on behalf of approximately 350 Fire Agencies across the State of Oregon.

I am writing on behalf of our membership to express our support of Oregon APCO/NENA and their efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

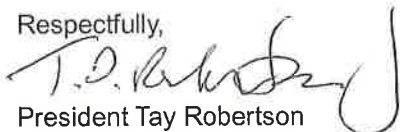
The 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our statewide 9-1-1 system. Current market research shows a shift away from wireless contract plans and customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently. Unfortunately, the current statute as written doesn't have a mechanism for the collection of the tax on these devices despite the fact that they are capable of accessing 9-1-1.

This lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 program of an estimated 6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials we know the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our own systems. Funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct effect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation (or "Next Gen"), to allow 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video and pictures as expected by the citizens. With lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens would be severely compromised.

Respectfully,



President Tay Robertson  
Oregon Fire Chiefs Association  
727 Center St. NE #300  
Salem, OR 97301



January 19, 2011

Mr. Larry Hatch  
Oregon APCO/NENA  
17911 NW Evergreen Parkway  
Beaverton, OR 97006

**Re: Support for House Bill 2075 – 911 Tax on Prepaid Cell Phones**

Dear Mr. Hatch,

On behalf of the membership of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police, please accept this letter of support for the efforts of Oregon APCO/NENA to update the 9-1-1 telephone tax provisions in order to authorize collection of the tax from prepaid wireless phones. While these devices are capable of accessing the 9-1-1 system, our current statutory language doesn't allow for the collection of tax from the prepaid wireless phone industry. The loss of revenue to our 9-1-1 system due to this loophole in state statute is estimated at over six million dollars.

With the rapid development of new technologies and the challenges and opportunities that result, it is vital that our 9-1-1 system keep the pace by investing in critical upgrades and technologies that improve the speed and responsiveness of our emergency communications system. The 250 members of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police fully recognize the impact new technologies have on the 9-1-1 system and we fully support the importance of properly investing in our emergency communications infrastructure.

Text messaging and the growing availability of video/photo information are just a few examples of improvements that will require strategic technology upgrades and investments in order to insure we are able to serve our citizens with competence.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart A. Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S".

Chief Stuart Roberts, President  
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police



CITY OF  
**PORTLAND, OREGON**

Amanda Fritz, Commissioner  
1221 SW Fourth Ave., Suite 220  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
(503) 823-3008  
amanda@ci.portland.or.us

January 24, 2011

Attention: Oregon APCO / NENA Legislative Committee

On behalf of the City of Portland we offer this letter in support of legislation that would establish a mechanism to collect from pre-paid wireless devices the same 75 cents per month tax that is levied on every other device capable of accessing 9-1-1 in order support the program.

We recognize that the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our statewide 9-1-1 system. We further understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans and customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently and this lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials, the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our system and funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct affect on the citizens and community we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation, or "Next Gen", to allow the 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video, and pictures, as expected by the citizens. With a lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens is severely compromised.

The City of Portland joins Oregon APCO/NENA and the Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fritz, Commissioner



# Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District

P.O. Box 998  
St. Helens, OR 97051

Providing 9-1-1 call answering,  
emergency dispatch and other  
support services for:

Clatskanie Fire & Medical  
Clatskanie Police  
Columbia City Police  
Columbia County Sheriff  
Columbia River Fire & Rescue  
Mist-Birkenfeld Fire & Medical  
Rainier Police  
City of Prescott  
Scappoose Fire & Medical  
Scappoose Police  
St. Helens Police  
Vernonia Fire & Medical  
Metro-West Ambulance  
Vernonia Police  
Columbia Co. District Attorney  
Columbia Co. Emergency Services  
Columbia Co. Juvenile Division  
Columbia Co. Road Department  
Columbia Community Mental Health  
Oregon State Police  
Oregon State Forestry, Columbia Unit  
Columbia Co. Juvenile Justice Center & Probation  
Trojan Facility

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Zone 1 (Clatskanie), Dee Wooley  
Zone 2 (Rainier), Wes McMahan  
Zone 3 (St. Helens), Henry Heimuller  
Zone 4 (Vernonia-Mist), Kathy Denckla  
Zone 5 (Scappoose), Rob Anderson

ADMINISTRATOR  
Richard Whitehead  
(503) 397-7255 ext. 2223  
rwhitehead@columbia911.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER  
Lee Knowlton  
(503) 397-7255 ext.2222  
lknowlton@columbia911.com

DEPUTY OPERATIONS MANAGER  
Steve Watson  
(503) 397-7255 ext.2240  
swatson@columbia911.com

ADMIN. SERVICES MANAGER  
Nancy Edwards  
(503) 397-7255 ext. 2225  
nedwards@columbia911.com

DATA SPECIALIST  
Susan Reedy  
(503) 397-7255 ext. 2224  
sreedy@columbia911.com

January 25, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Prepaid Wireless Cell Phones

The Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District (C911CD) is the designated Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for Columbia County, Oregon. The C911CD is governed by a 5 member Board of Directors elected county wide and dispatch for 17 agencies within our county.

I am writing on behalf of our county to express our support of Oregon APCO/NENA and their efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

The 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component to the funding of this essential telephone system. Unfortunately, the current statute as written does not address the prepaid users and this lack of support by the prepaid industry resulted in a loss of an estimated 6.8 million dollars in 2009 alone.

Further, is the need to pursue technology advances such as Next Generation 9-1-1 and interoperability between communications centers across the state.

Statewide 9-1-1 program funding is an essential component that allows us to support our public safety agencies and the citizens we serve in our county and support of the system by the prepaid community is essential.

Sincerely,

Richard Whitehead, Administrator

Administrative Office: (503) 397-7255 · Fax (503) 366-7196  
Non-emergency Dispatch: (503) 397-1521 or 1-800-696-7795  
Dispatch Fax (503) 397-7797 or 1-800-734-7795  
[www.columbia911.com](http://www.columbia911.com)



# Corvallis Police Department

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Gary D. Boldizar  
Chief of Police  
180 NW 5th Street  
PO Box 1083  
Corvallis, OR 97339-1083  
(541) 766-6924, Fax 754-1720

November 8, 2010

OREGON APCO/NENA

Kristi J. Wilde,  
Oregon APCO/NENA Legislative Committee Chair

Re: Prepaid Wireless Cell Phones

The Corvallis Regional Communications Center (CRCC) is the designated Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for Benton County, Oregon. The CRCC is governed by a 10 member 911 User Board representing the 10 governments served.

During the October 2010, 911 User Board quarterly meeting, discussion took place regarding pre-paid wireless cell phones and how some retailers have been able to circumvent the 1981 legislation requiring .75 cents per month for wire-line, wireless and voice over internet (VoIP) capable of accessing 911 services. It is the position of the CRCC, the original statutes were intended to address any type of device capable of dialing 911 to receive emergency services and that the current tax is part and parcel to having a phone.

The Corvallis Regional Communications Center 911 User Board motioned and unanimously voted to support APCO/NENA legislative efforts requiring the pre-paid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 911 Program by instituting the 911 tax.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan M. Sassaman".

Jonathan M. Sassaman, ISSD Captain & 911 Director  
Corvallis Police Department  
Corvallis Regional Communications Center  
541-766-6440  
[Jon.sassaman@ci.corvallis.or.us](mailto:Jon.sassaman@ci.corvallis.or.us)



Lynn Peterson  
Chair  
Commissioners  
Bob Austin  
Jim Bernard  
Charlotte Lehan  
Ann Lininger

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING  
2051 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

**To:** Clackamas County Legislative Delegation  
**From:** Clackamas County Board of Commissioners  
**Date:** December 23, 2010  
**RE:** **Support of Legislation to collect 9-1-1 Tax on Pre-Paid Wireless**

The 9-1-1 telephone tax is essential to the overall funding for our state-wide emergency system. As a result, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners seeks your assistance to encourage support of the 9-1-1 Program by the prepaid wireless telephone industry. The current lack of support deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

Our ability to provide a service level expected by our citizens is severely compromised. For example, our 9-1-1 emergency responders need to pursue advances in technology, referred to as next generation technology, to allow 9-1-1 Emergency Centers across Oregon to keep pace with modern technology as expected by citizens.

Two legislative concepts (LC) have been passed out of the interim committee process and will be assigned a bill number and committee hearings. LC 834 establishes alternative methods for telecommunications providers to satisfy requirements to collect and remit tax on customer access to 9-1-1 emergency reporting system from prepaid telecommunications service customers. LC 835 clarifies obligation of providers of telecommunications services and equipment to comply with requirements for 9-1-1 emergency communications.

The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners joins:

- the Oregon Association of Public Communications Officials;
- the National Emergency Number Association;
- the Oregon Military Department's 9-1-1 Program; and
- the Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of LC 834 and LC 835.

Please consider this sentiment when the legislative concepts are assigned a bill number, debated and voted on.

Sincerely,

Lynn Peterson, Chair  
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners





## Law Enforcement Council of Washington County



December 29, 2010

Larry L. Hatch  
Oregon APCO/NENA Legislative Committee Chair

Oregon Legislative Assembly

Re: Support of Legislation to collect 9-1-1 Tax on Pre-Paid wireless

To Whom It May Concern,

The Law Enforcement Council of Washington County would like to offer this letter of support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

We recognize the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our state-wide system.

We further understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans; customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently and this lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials we know the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our own systems. Funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct effect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation (or Next Gen), to allow 9-1-1 centers across our state to receive text messaging, video and pictures as expected by the citizens. With lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens would be severely compromised.

The Law Enforcement Council of Washington County joins APCO/NENA, The Oregon 9-1-1 Program of the Oregon Military Department and Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Groth".

Chief Jeff Groth  
Chair  
Washington County Law Enforcement Council

WASHINGTON COUNTY  
**FIRE DEFENSE BOARD**

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December 14, 2010

Larry L. Hatch  
Oregon APCO/NENA Legislative Committee Chair

Mr. Hatch,

As the Fire Defense Board Chief for Washington County, I represent the collective interests of the fire agencies within Washington County. On behalf of these agencies, I would like to offer this letter of support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

The fire agencies within Washington County agree that the prepaid wireless phone industry should pay their share of taxes for the 9-1-1 services made available through the phones they provide. The Oregon 9-1-1 program cannot afford to lose millions of dollars a year in revenue due to the current statute having no way of collecting taxes on these devices.

The Washington County Fire Defense Board supports future legislation that will include taxing the prepaid wireless phone industry.

Sincerely,



Dustin Morrow  
Washington County Fire Defense Board Chief

# Lane County Fire Defense Board



December 16, 2010

Larry Hatch  
Oregon APCO/NENA Legislative Committee Chair

**Regarding: Support of Legislation to collect 9-1-1 Tax on Pre-Paid wireless**

The Lane County Fire Defense Board would like to offer this letter in support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

We recognize the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our state-wide system. As wireless customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently, the current inability to collect the tax from the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of needed financial support for the system.

As public safety officials we know the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our own systems. Funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct effect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, in order to allow 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video and pictures as expected by the citizens. Without sufficient funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens will be severely compromised.

On November 18, 2010, the Lane County Fire Defense Board took action and unanimously voted to join Oregon APCO/NENA in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Sincerely,

Chief Chad Minter, Chair  
Lane County Fire Defense Board  
Coburg Rural Fire/Protection District  
coburgfire@nu-world.com



November 22, 2010

Mr. Larry Hatch  
Oregon APCO/NENA  
17911 NW Evergreen Parkway  
Beaverton, OR 97006

Albany Fire Department  
Brownsville Rural Fire District  
Halsey-Shedd Rural Fire District  
Harrisburg Fire & Rescue  
Jefferson Rural Fire District  
Lebanon Fire District  
Lyons Rural Fire District  
Oregon Department of Forestry  
Sweet Home  
Scio Rural Fire District  
Stayton Rural Fire District  
Sweet Home Fire & Ambulance  
Tangent Rural Fire District

Dear Mr. Hatch:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Linn County Fire Defense Board in support of Oregon APCO/NENA and the legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

We agree that the prepaid wireless phone industry should be held accountable and pay their share of taxes for the 9-1-1 services made accessible through their phones. The Oregon 9-1-1 Program cannot afford to lose millions of dollars a year in revenue just because the current statute has no way of collecting taxes on these devices.

The continued down turn of our states economy brings with it many budgetary concerns for all public safety agencies. If supporting Oregon APCO/NENA legislation saves the job of one public safety employee, this letter has done it's job.

All Oregonians need to continue paying their fair share and shouldn't rely on other phone customers to pay the required tax so prepaid wireless users can access the same benefits.

The Linn County Fire Defense Board highly supports future legislation that will include taxing prepaid wireless phone users!

If I can be of any further assistance in the future, please contact me at 541-367-5882.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Beaver". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mike Beaver  
Linn County Fire Defense Board Chief



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**Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency**

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December 16, 2010

Oregon Chapter APCO/NENA Legislative Committee

PO Box 2024

Salem, OR 97308-2024

The Chief Executive Officer's Board for Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency (WCCCA) would like to offer this letter in support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Our Board recognizes the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our statewide 9-1-1 system.

We further understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans and customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently and this lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials, the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our system and funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct affect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation, or "Next Gen", to allow the 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video, and pictures, as expected by the citizens. With a lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens is severely compromised.

The Chief Executive Officer's Board for WCCCA joins Oregon APCO/NENA and Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

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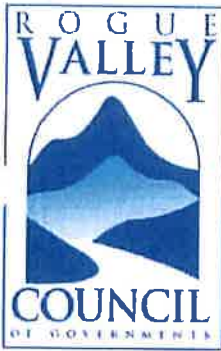
Dennis Doyle  
Chair, Board of Commissioner's

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17911 NW Evergreen Pkwy \* Beaverton, Oregon 97006 \* (503) 690-4911

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*"Excellence In Emergency Communications"*



Administration Office

# Rogue Valley Council of Governments

(541) 664-6674 • FAX (541) 664-7927 • [www.rvcog.org](http://www.rvcog.org)

**Date:** December 2, 2010  
**To:** Oregon Chapter APCO/NENA Legislative Committee  
**From:** Rogue Valley Council of Governments  
**Re:** Prepaid Wireless 9-1-1 Telephone Tax

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The Rogue Valley Council of Governments is a voluntary association of these local governments and special districts in our region:

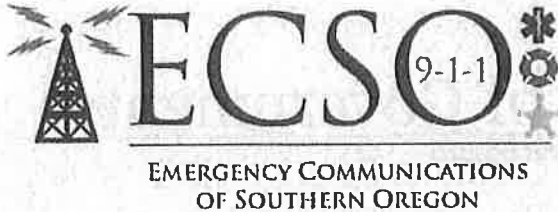
Jackson County  
Josephine County  
City of Ashland  
Town of Butte Falls  
City of Cave Junction  
City of Central Point  
City of Eagle Point  
City of Gold Hill  
City of Grants Pass  
City of Jacksonville  
City of Medford  
City of Phoenix  
City of Rogue River  
City of Shady Cove  
City of Talent  
Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (ECSO)  
Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District  
Rogue Community College (RCC)  
Rogue Valley Sewer Services (RVS)  
Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD)  
Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc. (SORED)  
Southern Oregon University (SOU)

The Board of the Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG)—an association of two counties, 15 cities, five special districts, and two institutions of higher learning in southern Oregon—would like to express support for your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 program.

An obviously critical service to all communities, 9-1-1 must be maintained at a high level of functionality. Unfortunately, the increasing consumer trend away from wireless contract plans and to prepaid phones has put 9-1-1 in an increasingly vulnerable financial position. Unless action is taken, this vulnerability can only increase.

Our firm position is that any technology that permits access to 9-1-1 service should be required to help support the emergency system. Because the prepaid phone industry is the most important example of a major telecommunications innovation outpacing our ability to fairly distribute the burden of supporting 9-1-1, we support the creation of legislation to correct this situation as soon as possible.

Michael Cavallaro, Executive Director, RVCOG



November 10, 2010

**Attention: Oregon Chapter APCO/NENA Legislative Committee,**

The Intergovernmental Council for Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (ECSO) would like to offer this letter in support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Our Council recognizes the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our statewide 9-1-1 system.

We further understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans; customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently and this lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials, we know the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our own systems. Funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct effect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation (or "Next Gen"), to allow 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video, and pictures, as expected by the citizens. With a lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens would be severely compromised.

The Intergovernmental Council for ECSO joins Oregon APCO/NENA and Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Page 1 of 2

The Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon Intergovernmental Council includes the following agencies:

**Jackson County:**

*Jackson County Sheriff's Office  
Jackson County Roads and Parks  
Jackson County Services  
Jackson County Airport Authority*

**The City of Medford:**

*Medford Police Department  
Medford Fire Department*

**The City of Central Point:**

*Central Point Police Department*

**The City of Eagle Point:**

*City of Eagle Point Police Department*

**The City of Ashland:**

*City of Ashland Police Department  
City of Ashland Fire and Rescue*

**The City of Talent:**

*City of Talent Police Department*

**The City of Phoenix:**

*City of Phoenix Police Department*

**The City of Jacksonville:**

*City of Jacksonville Police Department  
City of Jacksonville Fire Department*

**The City of Rogue River:**

*City of Rogue River Police Department*

**The City of Butte Falls:**

*City of Butte Falls Police Department  
City of Butte Falls Fire Department*

**Rogue River Rural Fire Protection District #1**

**Medford Rural Fire Protection District #2**

**Jackson County Fire District #3**

**Jackson County Fire District #4**

**Jackson County Fire District #5**

**Evans Valley Fire District #6**

**Jackson County Fire District #9**

**Prospect Rural Fire Protection District**

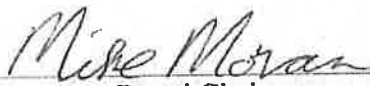
**Lake Creek Rural Fire Protection District**

**Oregon Department of Forestry**

**Southern Oregon University**

**Crater Lake National Park**

**Greensprings Fire Protection District**



Mike Moran, Board Chairman  
ECSO Intergovernmental Council





# Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs' Association



**Attention Oregon Chapter APCO/NENA Legislative Committee,**

The Rogue Valley Fire Chief's Association (RVFCA) would like to offer this letter in support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

The RVFCA, which is comprised of Fire, EMS and Emergency Management agencies from Josephine and Jackson Counties, recognizes the 9-1-1 telephone tax as an essential component of the overall funding for our statewide 9-1-1 system.

We further understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans and customers appear to choose prepaid phones more frequently and this lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials, the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our system and funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct affect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation, or "Next Gen", to allow the 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video, and pictures, as expected by the citizens. With a lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens is severely compromised.

The RVFCA joins Oregon APCO/NENA and Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

*William M. Fuller*

Chief William Fuller

President

Rogue Valley Fire Chief's Association

## **Rogue Valley Fire Chief's Association**

American Medical Rescue  
Applegate Valley RFPD  
Ashland Fire & Rescue  
Butte Falls VFD  
City of Grants Pass  
Colestine Rural FPD  
Dept of Public Safety Standards & Training  
Emergency Communications of So Or  
Evans Valley RFPD #6  
Grants Pass DPS - Fire Rescue  
Greensprings  
Illinois Valley RFPD

Jackson County  
Jackson County Emergency Mgmt  
Jackson County Environmental Health  
Jackson County FD #3  
Jackson County FD #4  
Jackson County FD #5  
Jacksonville FD  
Josephine County 911  
Josephine County Emergency Mgmt  
Lake Creek FD  
Medford Fire Dept  
Mercy Flights  
Or Dept of Environmental Quality  
Oregon Dept of Forestry  
Oregon State Police  
Prospect Fire  
Rogue River FD  
Rural Metro Fire  
State Fire Marshall  
US Forest Service  
Williams RFPD  
Wolf Creek Fire



**Bob Cozzie**  
Director

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**  
2200 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

To: Oregon Legislative Assembly  
From: Clackamas County Communications User Board  
Date: December 15, 2010  
Regarding: Support of Legislation to collect 9-1-1 Tax on Pre-Paid Wireless

To Whom It May Concern:

The Clackamas County Communications User Board would like to offer this letter of support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

We recognize the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our state-wide system.

We further understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans; customers appear to choose prepaid phone more frequently and this lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials we know the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our own systems. Funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct effect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation (or "Next Gen"), to allow 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video and pictures as expected by the citizens. With lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens would be severely compromised.

The Clackamas County Communications User Board joins Oregon APCO/NENA, The Oregon 9-1-1 Program of the Oregon Military Department and Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Sincerely,

Chief Jerry Giger

Chair, Clackamas County Communications User Board



# CLACKAMAS DISTRICT FIRE DEFENSE BOARD

69634 E Highwaya 26 • Welches, Oregon, 97067 • 503-622-3256



To: Oregon Legislative Assembly  
From: Clackamas County Fire Defense Board  
Date: January 11, 2011  
Regarding: Support of Legislation to collect 9-1-1 Tax on Pre-Paid Wireless

To Whom It May Concern:

The Clackamas County Fire Defense Board would like to offer this letter of support of your efforts to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

We recognize the 9-1-1 telephone tax is an essential component of the overall funding for our state-wide system.

We further understand the market is shifting away from wireless contract plans; customers appear to choose prepaid phone more frequently and this lack of support by the prepaid wireless phone industry has deprived the Oregon 9-1-1 Program of an estimated \$6.8 million dollars in 2009.

As public safety officials we know the 9-1-1 system is an integral part of our own systems. Funding issues within the Oregon 9-1-1 Program have a direct effect on the citizens we all serve.

We are also aware of the need to pursue much needed advances in technology, referred to as next generation (or "Next Gen"), to allow 9-1-1 Centers across our state to receive text messaging, video and pictures as expected by the citizens. With lack of funding, the ability to provide the service level already expected by our citizens would be severely compromised.

The Clackamas County Fire Defense Board joins Oregon APCO/NENA, The Oregon 9-1-1 Program of the Oregon Military Department and Public Safety Answering Points throughout Oregon in support of legislation to require the prepaid wireless phone industry to support the Oregon 9-1-1 Program.

Sincerely,

Chief Gary McQueen  
Chair, Clackamas County Fire Defense Board