



**Written Testimony To The
Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness**

*By: Larry L. Hatch
Washington County 9-1-1 Assistant Director*

In Support of HB 2919

Chair Boquist, Committee Members,

For the record, I'm Larry Hatch. I am the Assistant Director at Washington County 9-1-1 center.

Our agency is in full support of HB 2919. In 2014 we were supportive of HB 4022 although we did not see the need for it. We have a very good relationship with our wireless carriers. When location information is needed for emergency situations the carriers supply it in a timely manner, on average 6 minutes. However, we understood the symbolic nature of the bill as a result of a terrible crime in 2007 involving Kelsey Smith. There was nothing in the original bill that impacted the 9-1-1 center.

An amendment occurred requiring the Office of Emergency Management 9-1-1 Program to track all location requests by PSAPs and report back to the legislature. To accomplish this, the 9-1-1 Program Office paid a vendor \$69,222 to create phase one of a tracking database - a database in which any public safety agency, including the PSAP, was to enter date and time information on a request for location information from a cell phone.

Washington County 9-1-1 feels this is unnecessary, adding more work for our PSAP and those around the State and an unfortunate expenditure of our 9-1-1 dollars for the first phase of the project.

The system was working as expected at the time of HB 4022 and continues to work as expected today. We urge you to support HB 2919 which removes the unnecessary PSAP reporting requirement.