



*OREGON COMBINED CHAPTERS OF:
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Our Vision: "Embrace a vibrant and growing organization characterized by member support, professional development and stakeholder education."

TO: Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety
FROM: Hasina Wittenberg, APCO/NENA
DATE: February 20, 2019
RE: **Testimony in Support of House Bill 5031 - OMD Budget**

INTRODUCTION

Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. For the record my name is Hasina Wittenberg and I appear before you today on behalf of the Oregon Chapters of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and National Emergency Number Association (NENA) to provide testimony in support of the Oregon Military Department's budget HB 5031.

BACKGROUND – TAX AND FUNDING

In 1981 the Oregon Legislature issued a mandate for statewide 9-1-1 services and instituted a 3% surcharge on subscriber's telephone lines. At that time there were over 280 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in Oregon with only a few providing basic 9-1-1 service and none provided Enhanced 9-1-1 service.

The 1991 legislature increased the surcharge to 5% and mandated Enhanced 9-1-1 service (9-1-1 caller's address and responsible police, fire and EMS provider displayed to the call-taker). However, in 1995 the 5% surcharge was converted to an approximate equivalent 75-cent surcharge to provide the 9-1-1 program with greater revenue stability and predictability. In 2015, prepaid wireless and VOIP providers began paying the tax at the point of sale. Revenue is distributed as follows:

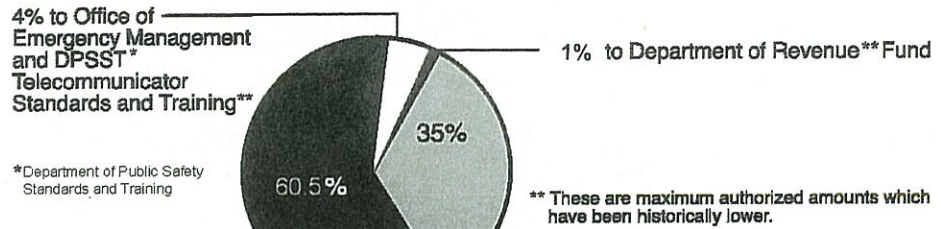
- ✓ Sixty percent (60%) of the revenues are distributed to public safety answering points for operation of the state's 43 PSAPs. Distribution is in proportion to population, except that no county receives less than 1% of the distribution. The funds may not be used for PSAP operations unless they are directly related to 9-1-1.
- ✓ Thirty-five percent (35%) of the revenues are managed by Oregon Emergency Management (OEM), a Division of Oregon Military Department, to pay for PSAP common network services, Federal Communications Commission Phase I and II wireless services, costs associated with the Enhanced 9-1-1 program which include network, database, equipment and other costs related to providing state-wide wire line and wireless 9-1-1 services.

- ✓ Four percent (actual costs or no more than 4% maximum) of revenues may be used by the Oregon Emergency Management to pay for OEM 9-1-1 program administration and Telecommunicator training at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST).
- ✓ One percent of the revenues are distributed to the Department of Revenue for administrative processing cost recovery.



The Funding of 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in Oregon

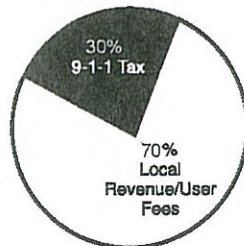
Allocation of the 75¢ Tax on Access to 9-1-1 Services



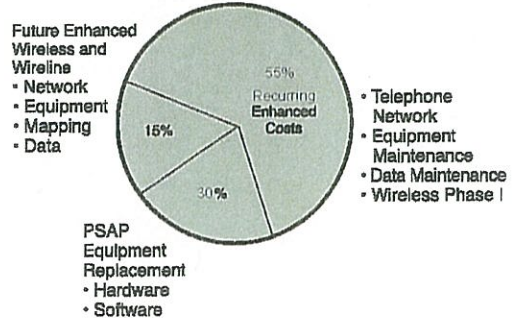
60% to 9-1-1 PSAP Operations

35% to Enhanced 9-1-1 Subaccount

Typical 9-1-1 PSAP Operating Costs are Funded



Enhanced 9-1-1 Subaccount Expenditures



OMD BUDGET OREGON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 9-1-1 PROGRAM

9-1-1 revenue is an essential funding component of the local 9-1-1 system. These revenues make up approximately 30% of a 9-1-1 center's operating revenue.

Oregonians expect basic 9-1-1 service for emergencies. We support OMD's budget and the 9-1-1 program contained within HB 5031.