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A bill to be entitled An act relating to the wireless emergency telephone system; amending s. 365.172, F.S.; adding definitions relating to wireless telephone communications; providing legislative intent regarding the emergency wireless telephone system; providing standards for local governments to follow when regulating the placement, construction, or modification of a wireless communications facility; directing local governments to approve properly completed applications within specified time periods; providing procedures for a provider of wireless communications services to submit an application for local approval; directing local governments to notify a provider of the deficiencies in an application; directing local governments to notify a provider whether the resubmission of information properly completes the application; providing that any moratorium affecting a wireless communications facility must be adopted as if it were a zoning ordinance and may continue for no longer than 6 months after the moratorium's adoption; providing for a limited review by a local government of an accessory wireless communications facility; prohibiting local governments from imposing certain restrictions on wireless communications facilities; providing that a local government may not require a wireless communications provider to

1 remove a wireless communications facility 2 unless the facility causes a specific adverse 3 impact on the public health, safety, or welfare 4 of the locality; requiring a local government 5 to amend its ordinance in order to comply with 6 this act by a specified date; providing that a 7 person who is adversely affected by a decision of local government relating to a wireless 8 9 communications facility may bring an action 10 within a specified period; providing for the 11 computation of the time period; providing that a person who is adversely affected by a 12 13 decision of a local government relating to a wireless communications facility may bring an 14 15 action at any time if the person is seeking only equitable relief to compel a local 16 17 government to comply with the procedures of the act; providing an effective date. 18

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsections (3) and (11) of section 365.172, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

24 365.172 Wireless emergency telephone number "E911."--

25 (3) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section and ss. 26 365.173 and 365.174, the term:

(a) "Active prepaid wireless telephone" means a prepaid wireless telephone that has been used by the customer during the month to complete a telephone call for which the customer's card or balance was decremented.

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1 "Administrative review" means the nondiscretionary review conducted by local governmental staff for compliance 2 3 with local government ordinances, but does not include a public hearing or review of public input. 4 5 (c) (b) "Answering point" means the public safety 6 agency that receives incoming 911 calls and dispatches 7 appropriate public safety agencies to respond to the such 8 calls. 9

 $\underline{(d)(c)}$  "Automatic location identification" means the capability of the E911 service which enables the automatic display of information that defines the approximate geographic location of the wireless telephone used to place a 911 call.

 $\underline{\text{(e)}}$  "Automatic number identification" means the capability of the E911 service which enables the automatic display of the 10-digit service number used to place a 911 call.

 $\underline{\text{(f)}}_{\text{(e)}}$  "Board" means the board of directors of the Wireless 911 Board.

- (g) "Building-permit review" means a review for compliance with building construction standards adopted by the local government under chapter 553 and does not include a review for compliance with land development regulations.
- (h) "Collocation" means the situation when more than one wireless provider uses an existing structure to locate antennas. The term includes the ground, platform, or roof installation of equipment enclosures, cabinets, or buildings, and cables, brackets, and other equipment associated with the location and operation of the antennas.

 $\underline{\text{(i)}}$  "Office" means the State Technology Office.

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an emergency telephone system or service that provides a subscriber with wireless 911 service and, in addition, directs 911 calls to appropriate public safety answering points by selective routing based on the geographical location from which the call originated, or as otherwise provided in the state plan under s. 365.171, and that provides for automatic number identification and automatic location-identification features in accordance with the requirements of the order.

(k) "Existing structure" means a structure that exists at the time an application for permission to place antennas on a structure is filed with a local government. The term includes any structure that can support the attachment of antennas, including, but not limited to, towers, buildings, utility structures, light poles, water towers, clock towers, bell towers, and steeples.

 $\underline{\text{(1)}}$  "Fee" means the E911 fee imposed under subsection (8).

 $\underline{\text{(m)}(i)}$  "Fund" means the Wireless Emergency Telephone System Fund established in s. 365.173 and maintained under this section for the purpose of recovering the costs associated with providing 911 service or E911 service, including the costs of implementing the order.

(n) "Land-development regulation" means any ordinance enacted by a local governing body for the regulation of any aspect of development, including an ordinance governing zoning, subdivisions, building construction, landscaping, tree protection, or signs, or any other ordinance concerning any aspect of the development of land. The term does not include any building-construction standard adopted under and in compliance with chapter 553.

 $\underline{(p)}(k)$  "Local government" means any municipality, county, or political subdivision or agency of a municipality, county, or political subdivision.

 $\underline{(q)}$  "Mobile telephone number" or "MTN" means the telephone number assigned to a wireless telephone at the time of initial activation.

## (r)<del>(m)</del> "Order" means:

- 1. The following orders and rules of the Federal Communications Commission issued in FCC Docket No. 94-102:
- a. Order adopted on June 12, 1996, with an effective date of October 1, 1996, the amendments to s. 20.03 and the creation of s. 20.18 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations adopted by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to the such order.
- b. Memorandum and Order No. FCC 97-402 adopted on December 23, 1997.
- c. Order No. FCC DA 98-2323 adopted on November 13, 1998.
  - d. Order No. FCC 98-345 adopted December 31, 1998.
- 2. Orders and rules subsequently adopted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to the provision of wireless 911 services.
- $\underline{\text{(s)}}$  "Provider" means a person or entity who provides service and either:
  - 1. Is subject to the requirements of the order; or
- 2. Elects to provide wireless 911 service or E911 service in this state.

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(t) (o) "Prepaid wireless telephone service" means wireless telephone service that is activated in advance by payment for a finite dollar amount of service or for a finite set of minutes that terminate either upon use by a customer and delivery by the wireless provider of an agreed-upon amount of service corresponding to the total dollar amount paid in advance or within a certain period of time following the initial purchase or activation, unless additional payments are made.

(u)<del>(p)</del> "Public agency" means the state and any municipality, county, municipal corporation, or other governmental entity, public district, or public authority located in whole or in part within this state which provides, or has authority to provide, firefighting, law enforcement, ambulance, medical, or other emergency services.

 $(v)\frac{(q)}{(q)}$  "Public safety agency" means a functional division of a public agency which provides firefighting, law enforcement, medical, or other emergency services.

(w) ((w)) "Rural county" means any county that has a population of fewer than 75,000.

(x)(s) "Service" means "commercial mobile radio service" as provided under ss. 3(27) and 332(d) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C., ss. 151 et seq., and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Pub. L. No. 103-66, August 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 312. The term "service" includes the term "wireless" and service provided by any wireless real-time two-way wire communication device, including radio-telephone communications used in cellular telephone service; personal communications service; or the functional or competitive equivalent of a radio-telephone 31 communications line used in cellular telephone service, a

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 personal communications service, or a network radio access line. The term does not include wireless providers that offer mainly dispatch service in a more localized, noncellular configuration; providers offering only data, one-way, or stored-voice services on an interconnected basis; providers of air-to-ground services; or public coast stations.

 $\underline{(y)}$  "Service number" means the unique 10-digit wireless telephone number assigned to a service subscriber.

 $\underline{(z)}$  "Sufficient positive balance" means a dollar amount greater than or equal to the monthly wireless surcharge amount.

- (aa) "Tower" means any structure designed primarily to support a wireless antenna.
- (bb) "Wireless communications facility" means any equipment or structure used to provide service, and includes, but is not limited to, antennas, towers, equipment enclosures, cabling, antenna brackets, and other equipment.
- (cc) "Wireless communications site" means the area on the roof, structure, or ground which is designed, intended to be used, or is used for the location of a wireless communications facility, all related facilities and areas, and any fencing and landscaping provided in association with the wireless communications facility.
- $\underline{(\mathrm{dd})}(v)$  "Wireless 911 system" or "wireless 911 service" means an emergency telephone system or service that provides a subscriber with the ability to reach an answering point by dialing the digits "911." A wireless 911 system is complementary to a wired 911 system as provided for in s. 365.171.
- (11) FACILITATING E911 SERVICE IMPLEMENTATION.--<u>The</u>
  Legislature finds that it is in the best interest of the

residents of this state to have efficient and reliable wireless emergency telephone (E911) systems operating in this 2. 3 state. Because the Federal Government and this state have chosen to operate the wireless E911 systems through the 4 5 private commercial wireless communications systems, the 6 operation of a high-quality wireless E911 service is dependent 7 upon an equally efficient and reliable wireless non-E911 8 system. It is also in the best interest of this state to coordinate the wireless systems with local government's zoning 9 and land use authority in order to protect the public health, 10 11 safety, and welfare. Therefore, in order to balance the public need for reliable wireless systems with the governmental 12 zoning and land-development regulations and notwithstanding 13 14 any other law or local ordinance to the contrary, the following minimum standards shall apply to a local 15 government's regulation of the placement, construction, or 16 17 modification of a wireless communications facility: (a)1. To reduce the proliferation of new towers, 18 19 collocation Colocation among wireless telephone service providers is encouraged by the state. An application to place 20 21 an antenna To further facilitate agreements among providers for colocation of their facilities, any antennae and related 22 equipment to service the antennae that is being collocated 23 24 colocated on an existing above-ground structure that does not increase the height of the existing structure or any existing 25 antenna, whichever is higher, and any placement, construction, 26 27 operation, and maintenance of the related equipment to serve 28 the antenna is not subject to land development regulation and shall only require building-permit review pursuant to s. 29 30 163.3202, provided the height of the existing structure is not 31 increased. However, construction of the antennae and related

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existing permits or agreements for such property, buildings, or structures. This section does not Nothing herein shall relieve the permitholder for or owner of the existing structure from of compliance with any applicable previously approved and existing condition or requirement of a permit or, agreement, or land development regulation, including any previously approved aesthetic requirements imposed by administrative order, resolution, or ordinance for development of the specific wireless communications site which is not inconsistent with this subsection, or law.

- 2. To further reduce the proliferation of new towers, the state encourages wireless providers to place antennas on existing structures. In cases when placement of an antenna is not covered by subparagraph 1., an application to place antenna on any existing structure, other than a single-family dwelling, and its related support equipment shall be subject only to an administrative review and building-permit review.
- 3. An existing tower, including a nonconforming tower, may be increased in height in order to permit collocation. The height may be increased by extending the existing tower or by replacing it. The local government may limit the height increase to no more than the reasonable amount necessary to accommodate the collocation. The height extension or replacement shall be subject only to an administrative review and to a building-permit review.
- (b) A local government may use its land use and zoning regulatory powers over the placement, construction, and modification of a wireless communications facility, but only to mitigate an identified adverse effect caused by the placement of a proposed wireless communications facility. The

adverse effect must directly impact the public health, safety, or welfare and be balanced against the public benefit of a reliable E911 system.

- 1. A local government may not review or consider a wireless provider's business need for a specific location for a wireless communications site or the need for wireless service to be provided from a particular site. A local government may not evaluate the wireless provider's service quality or the network design of the wireless service. Local government is limited when evaluating a wireless provider's application for placement of a wireless communications facility to issues concerning land use and zoning.
- 2. Requirements for setback or distance separation shall apply only to towers. The setback or separation required of a tower may not exceed the minimum distance necessary to satisfy the specific health, safety, or welfare concern that is directly protected by the setback or distance separation. A setback or distance separation imposed upon wireless communications towers may not be greater than that imposed upon similar structures such as electrical distribution and transmission structures, utility poles, or light poles.
- 3. Any height limitation placed on a wireless communications facility must have a rational nexus between the number of wireless communications sites determined necessary to serve the locality's reasonably projected population and consumer use. A local government may not restrict the height of a wireless communications facility so that the height restriction will likely result in an unreasonable increase in the total number of antenna sites over what is necessary to provide wireless services to the consumers projected to use

the service. Local governments shall encourage towers designed for collocation.

- 4. If aesthetic protections or protections against visual impacts are used to justify regulating the wireless communications facility's placement, construction, or modification, the regulation adopted and applied must be directly related to the aesthetic or visual impact protection and must be the minimum necessary to provide the protection.
- 5. A local government's regulations as written and applied must provide a reasonable opportunity for placing, constructing, and modifying wireless communications facilities in all parts of a local government's jurisdiction, unless it can be specifically demonstrated that a prohibition of all types of wireless communications facilities in a specific location or area is the only manner in which to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of that area.
- 6. A local government may not impose a fee, surety, or insurance requirement on a wireless provider when applying to place, construct, or modify a wireless communications facility if the fee, surety, or insurance requirement is not also imposed on applicants seeking similar types of zoning, land use, or building-permit review. The local government may not recover its costs from wireless providers incurred in preparing or adopting zoning or land-development regulations or ordinances regulating a wireless communications facility. Fees for review of zoning or land use applications by consultants or experts who are routinely engaged to review general zoning and land use matters on behalf of the local government may be recovered, but only if the recovery is routinely sought from all applicants seeking zoning or land-development approvals, and any fees must be reasonable.

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Review of applications for wireless communications facilities by local government shall be restricted only to what is necessary for land use review of the application.

(c)(b) Local governments may shall not require wireless providers to provide evidence of a wireless communications facility's compliance with federal regulations. However, local governments may request shall receive evidence of proper Federal Communications Commission licensure or other evidence of FCC authorized spectrum use from a wireless provider and may request the Federal Communications Commission to provide information as to a wireless provider's compliance with federal regulations, as authorized by federal law.

(d)(c)1. A local government shall grant or deny each a properly completed application for local government approval a permit, including permits under paragraph (a), for the placement colocation of antennas and any related equipment a wireless communications facility on property, an approved tower buildings, or an existing structure structures within the local government's jurisdiction within 45 business days after the date the properly completed application is determined to be properly completed initially submitted in accordance with this section the applicable local government application procedures, provided that such permit complies with applicable federal regulations and applicable local zoning or land development regulations, including any aesthetic requirements. Local building regulations shall apply.

2. A local government must grant or deny a properly completed application to modify an existing tower to allow placing an antenna and related equipment within 45 business

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government's jurisdiction within 90 business days after the date the properly completed application is determined to be properly completed initially submitted in accordance with applicable procedures, provided that such permit complies with applicable

development regulations, including any aesthetic requirements.

days after the date the application is determined to be

federal regulations and applicable local zoning or land

Local building regulations shall apply.

4.3.a. An application is deemed submitted or resubmitted on the date the application is filed with the local government. The local government shall notify the permit applicant within 10  $\frac{20}{20}$  business days after the date the application is initially submitted as to whether the application is, for administrative purposes only, properly completed and has been properly submitted. However, the such determination shall not be deemed as an approval of the application. If the application is not completed in compliance with the local government's application procedures, the Such notification must shall indicate with specificity any deficiencies that which, if cured, shall make the application properly completed. Upon resubmission of information to cure the stated deficiencies, the local government shall notify the applicant within 10 days after the additional information is submitted whether the application is properly completed or if there are any remaining deficiencies that must be cured. Any

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deficiencies not specified by the local government in the initial notice are waived.

- If the local government fails to grant or deny a properly completed application for a permit which has been properly submitted within the timeframes set forth in this subsection, the local government application paragraph, the permit shall be deemed automatically approved and the applicant provider may proceed with placement of such facilities without interference or penalty. The timeframes specified in subparagraph 3. subparagraphs 1. and 2. shall be extended only to the extent that the permit has not been granted or denied because the local government's procedures generally applicable to all permits, require action by the governing body and such action has not taken place within the timeframes specified in subparagraph 3. subparagraphs 1. and 2. Under such circumstances, the local government must act to either grant or deny the permit at its next regularly scheduled meeting or, otherwise, the permit shall be deemed to be automatically approved.
- c. To be effective, a waiver of the timeframes set forth in this paragraph herein must be voluntarily agreed to by the applicant and the local government. A local government may request, but not require, a waiver of the timeframes by an entity seeking a permit, except that, with respect to a specific permit, a one-time waiver may be required in the case of a declared local, state, or federal emergency that directly affects the administration of all permitting activities of the local government.
- (e) Any moratorium, or action or inaction by a local government which has the effect of a moratorium, on the placement, construction, or modification of a wireless

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communications facility or a moratorium on the review of
applications relating to a wireless communications facility
must:

- 1. Be adopted in the same manner as a zoning ordinance;
- 2. Be shown to be necessary because of an identified emergency or a sudden significant change in circumstances; and
- 3. Not remain in effect for more than 6 months after adoption or creation of the moratorium.

(f)<del>(d)</del> Any accessory <del>additional</del> wireless communications facilities, such as communication cables, adjacent accessory structures, or adjacent accessory equipment, and the wireless communications site in which the accessory wireless communications facility is to be located which are not covered by paragraph (a) used in the provision of cellular, enhanced specialized mobile radio, or personal communications services, required within the existing secured equipment compound within the existing site shall be deemed an a permitted use or activity requiring no more than administrative review and building-permit review. A land-development regulation, existing permit condition, or agreement may not subject an accessory wireless communications facility to greater restrictions or requirements or greater procedural or review processes than other accessory structures in the same zoning district Local building and land development regulations, including any aesthetic requirements, shall apply.

(g) A local government may not impose square footage or height limitations on an accessory wireless communications facility in excess of those required for principal buildings in the same zoning district. This paragraph supersedes any

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existing limitation imposed on a wireless communications facility by agreement, ordinance, resolution, or land 2 3 development code. (h) A local government may only regulate modification 4 5 of an existing wireless communications facility if: 6 The regulation mitigates an identified adverse 7 effect caused by the modification; and 8 The regulation affects only a materially 9 significant change that noticeably alters the design or 10 appearance of the wireless communications facility. 11 The replacement of visible equipment or structures with 12 equipment or structures of the same size, type, and appearance 13 and the replacement of equipment that is not visible from 14 outside the wireless communications site are not modifications 15 and are subject only to building-permit review. 16 17 (i) A local government may not require a wireless provider to remove a conforming or nonconforming wireless 18 19 communications facility within a stated period of time unless a specific adverse impact to the public health, safety, or 20 21 welfare of the locality is caused by the wireless communications facility. Before a local government may order 22 the removal of the wireless communications facility, the 23 24 wireless provider or owner of the facility shall have the

(j) If a local government regulation or procedure does not conform to the requirements of this section, the regulation or procedure must be amended to do so by January 1, 2005.

right to mitigate the condition that causes the adverse impact

and the local government must give the provider or owner a

reasonable time in which to mitigate the condition.

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(k) (e) Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the Department of Management Services shall negotiate, in the name of the state, leases for wireless communications facilities that provide access to state government-owned property not acquired for transportation purposes, and the Department of Transportation shall negotiate, in the name of the state, leases for wireless communications facilities that provide access to property acquired for state rights-of-way. On property acquired for transportation purposes, leases shall be granted in accordance with s. 337.251. On other state government-owned property, leases shall be granted on a space available, first-come, first-served basis. Payments required by state government under a lease must be reasonable and must reflect the market rate for the use of the state government-owned property. The Department of Management Services and the Department of Transportation are authorized to adopt rules for the terms and conditions and granting of any such leases.

- (1)1. Any person adversely affected by any action or failure to act by a local government which is inconsistent with this subsection may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction within 30 days after the action or the failure to act. The court shall consider the matter on an expedited basis.
- 2. Any decision by a local government relating to an application for a wireless communications facility is deemed final and constitutes an exhaustion of administrative remedies.
- 3. For purposes of computing the 30-day period for bringing an action, the date of the local government action or failure to act is the date the local government, or an agent

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acting on behalf of the local government, issues a written decision in response to an application for approval for the siting of a wireless communications facility.

- 4. A person adversely affected by any action or failure to act by a local government which is inconsistent with this subsection may bring an action in equity in a court of competent jurisdiction at any time to compel the local government to comply with the procedures set forth in this subsection. Relief sought by the person under this paragraph is limited solely to equitable remedies.
- 5. Notwithstanding subparagraph 4., this paragraph does not adversely affect a person's right to file a petition for a writ of certiorari to review a quasi-judicial action of the local government.
- (f) Any wireless telephone service provider may report to the board no later than September 1, 2003, the specific locations or general areas within a county or municipality where the provider has experienced unreasonable delay to locate wireless telecommunications facilities necessary to provide the needed coverage for compliance with federal Phase II E911 requirements using its own network. The provider shall also provide this information to the specifically identified county or municipality no later than September 1, 2003. Unless the board receives no report that unreasonable delays have occurred, the board shall, no later than September 30, 2003, establish a subcommittee responsible for developing a balanced approach between the ability of providers to locate wireless facilities necessary to comply with federal Phase II E911 requirements using the carrier's own network and the desire of counties and municipalities to zone and regulate land uses to 31 achieve public welfare goals. If a subcommittee is

established, it shall include representatives from the Florida 2 Telecommunications Industry Association, the Florida 3 Association of Counties, and the Florida League of Cities. The 4 subcommittee shall be charged with developing recommendations 5 for the board and any specifically identified municipality or 6 county to consider regarding actions to be taken for 7 compliance for federal Phase II E911 requirements. In the 8 annual report due to the Governor and the Legislature by 9 February 28, 2004, the board shall include any recommendations 10 developed by the subcommittee to address compliance with federal Phase II E911 requirements. 11 12 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004. 13 \*\*\*\*\*\*\* 14 15 SENATE SUMMARY Provides standards for local governments to follow when regulating the placement, construction, or modification of a wireless communications facility. Directs local governments to approve properly completed applications within specified time periods. Provides procedures when a provider of wireless communications services submits an application for local approval. Provides that any moratorium affecting a wireless communications facility must be adopted as if it were a zoning ordinance and may continue for no longer than 6 months after the moratorium's adoption. Directs local governments not to impose certain restrictions on wireless communications facilities. Provides that local government may not require a wireless communications provider to remove a wireless communications facility unless the facility causes a specific adverse impact on the public health, safety, or welfare of the locality. Provides that a person who is adversely affected by a decision of local government relating to a wireless communications facility 16 Provides standards for local governments to follow when 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 government relating to a wireless communications facility may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction. (See bill for details.) 25 26 2.7 28