By Senator Bennett

21-912-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to wireless communications
3	funds; amending s. 365.173, F.S.; redesignating
4	the Wireless Emergency Telephone System Fund as
5	the "Emergency Communications Number E911
6	System Fund"; requiring that all revenues
7	derived from a fee levied by a county on local
8	exchange subscribers be paid into the State
9	Treasury by a specified date and that the
10	moneys be accounted for in a special fund;
11	providing a methodology for the distribution of
12	the funds; requiring the Auditor General to
13	annually audit the fund; providing an effective
14	date.
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16	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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18	Section 1. Section 365.173, Florida Statutes, is
19	amended to read:
20	365.173 Wireless Emergency Communications Number E911
21	Telephone System Fund
22	(1) All revenues derived from the ± 911 fee levied on
23	subscribers under s. 365.172 must be paid by the board into
24	the State Treasury on or before the 15th day of each month.
25	Such moneys must be accounted for in a special fund to be
26	designated as the Wireless Emergency Communications Number
27	$\underline{\text{E911}}$ $\underline{\text{Telephone}}$ System Fund, a fund created in the $\underline{\text{Florida}}$
28	Enterprise Information State Technology Services Office, or
29	other office as designated by the Secretary of Management
30	Services, and, for accounting purposes, must be segregated
31	into two separate accounts:

1	(a) The wireless account; and
2	(b) The nonwireless account.and
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4	All moneys must be invested by the Chief Financial Officer
5	pursuant to s. 17.61. All moneys in such fund are to be
6	expended by the State Technology office for the purposes
7	provided in this section and s. 365.172. These funds are not
8	subject to s. 215.20.
9	(2) As determined by the board pursuant to s.
10	365.172(8)(h), and subject to any modifications approved by
11	the board pursuant to s. $365.172(6)(a)3. \text{ or} \frac{(8)(i)(8)(c)}{(8)(c)}$, the
12	moneys in the fund shall be distributed and used only as
13	follows:
14	(a) $\underline{\text{Sixty-seven}}$ $\underline{\text{Forty four}}$ percent of the moneys $\underline{\text{in}}$
15	the wireless account shall be distributed each month to
16	counties, based on the total number of <u>service identifiers</u>
17	wireless subscriber billing addresses in each county, and
18	shall be used exclusively for payment of:
19	1. Authorized expenditures Recurring costs of
20	providing 911 or E911 service, as specified in s. 365.172(9)
21	provided by s. 365.171(13)(a)6 .
22	2. Costs to comply with the requirements for E911
23	service contained in the order and any future rules related to
24	the order.
25	(b) Ninety-seven percent of the moneys in the
26	nonwireless account shall be distributed each month to
27	counties based on the total number of service identifiers in
28	each county, and shall be used exclusively for payment of
29	authorized expenditures, as specified in s. 365.172(9).
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Any county that receives funds under paragraphs (a) and (b) this paragraph shall establish a fund to be used exclusively for the receipt and expenditure of the revenues collected under paragraphs (a) and (b) this paragraph. All fees placed in the fund and any interest accrued shall be used solely for costs described in subparagraphs 1. and 2. The money collected and interest earned in this fund shall be appropriated for these purposes by the county commissioners and incorporated into the annual county budget. The fund shall be included within the financial audit performed in accordance with s. 218.39. A county may carry forward up to 20 30 percent of the total funds disbursed to the county by the board during a calendar year for expenditures for capital outlay, capital improvements, or equipment replacement, if such expenditures are made for the purposes specified in subparagraphs 1. and 2.; however, the 20-percent limitation does not apply to funds disbursed to a county under s. 365.172(6)(a)3., and a county may carry forward any percentage of the funds, except that any grant provided shall continue to be subject to any condition imposed by the board this paragraph. (c)(b) Thirty Fifty four percent of the moneys in the

(c)(b) Thirty Fifty four percent of the moneys in the wireless account shall be distributed to wireless providers in response to sworn invoices submitted to the board by wireless providers to reimburse such wireless providers for the actual costs incurred to provide 911 or E911 service, including the costs of complying with the order. Such costs include costs and expenses incurred by wireless providers to design, purchase, lease, program, install, test, upgrade, operate, and maintain all necessary data, hardware, and software required to provide E911 service. Up to 2 percent of the funds allocated to providers shall be retained by the board to be

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applied to costs and expenses incurred for the purposes of managing, administering, and overseeing the receipts and disbursements from the fund and other activities as defined in 365.172(6). Any funds retained for such purposes in a calendar year which are not applied to such costs and expenses by March 31 of the following year shall be distributed to providers pursuant to this paragraph. Each wireless provider shall submit to the board, by August 1 of each year, a detailed estimate of the capital and operating expenses for which it anticipates that it will seek reimbursement under this paragraph during the ensuing state fiscal year. By September 15 of each year, the board shall submit to the Legislature its legislative budget request for funds to be allocated to wireless providers under this paragraph during the ensuing state fiscal year. The budget request shall be based on the information submitted by the wireless providers and estimated surcharge revenues. Distributions of moneys in the fund by the board to wireless providers must be fair and nondiscriminatory. If the total amount of moneys requested by wireless providers pursuant to invoices submitted to the board and approved for payment exceeds the amount in the fund in any month, wireless providers that have invoices approved for payment shall receive a pro rata share of moneys in the fund and the balance of the payments shall be carried over to the following month or months until all of the approved payments are made. The board may adopt rules necessary to address the manner in which pro rata distributions are made when the total amount of funds requested by wireless providers pursuant to invoices submitted to the board exceeds the total amount of moneys on deposit in the fund.

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(d) One percent of the moneys in the fund shall be 2 retained by the board to be applied to costs and expenses incurred for the purposes of managing, administering, and 3 4 overseeing the receipts and disbursements from the fund and other activities as defined in s. 365.172(6). Any funds 5 retained for such purposes in a calendar year which are not applied to such costs and expenses by March 31 of the 8 following year shall be redistributed as determined by the 9 board. 10 (e)(c) Two percent of the moneys in the fund shall be used to make monthly distributions to rural counties for the 11 12 purpose of providing facilities and network and service 13 enhancements and assistance for the 911 or E911 systems operated by rural counties and for the provision of 14 reimbursable loans and grants by the office to rural counties 15 for upgrading and replacing E911 911 systems. 16 17 18 The Legislature recognizes that the wireless E911 fee authorized under s. 365.172 may will not necessarily provide 19 the total funding required for establishing or providing the 20 21 E911 911 service. It is the intent of the Legislature that all 22 revenue from the fee be used as specified in this subsection 23 s. 365.171(13)(a)6. (3) Through fiscal year 2008 2009, The Auditor General 2.4 shall annually audit the fund to ensure that moneys in the 2.5 26 fund are being managed in accordance with this section and s. 27 365.172. The Auditor General shall provide a report of the 2.8 annual audit to the board. 29 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a

********* SENATE SUMMARY Redesignates the Wireless Emergency Telephone System Fund as the "Emergency Communications Number E911 System Fund." Requires that all revenues derived from a fee levied by a county on local exchange subscribers be paid into the State Treasury by a specified date and that the moneys be accounted for in a special fund. Provides a methodology for the distribution of the funds. Requires the Auditor General to annually audit the fund.