



791862

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RS	.	
02/18/2010	.	
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The Committee on Health Regulation (Sobel) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section 365.172, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

365.172 Emergency communications number "E911."—

(9) AUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES OF E911 FEE.—

(a) For purposes of this section, E911 service includes the functions of database management, call taking, location verification, dispatching, and call transfer.

Section 2. Section 401.465, Florida Statutes, is amended to



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13 read:

14 401.465 911 emergency dispatcher certification.—

15 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

16 (a) "911 emergency dispatcher" means a person employed by a
17 state agency or local government as a public safety dispatcher
18 or 911 operator whose duties and responsibilities include
19 answering 911 calls; dispatching law enforcement officers, fire
20 rescue services, emergency medical services, and other public
21 safety services to the scene of an emergency; providing real-
22 time information from federal, state, and local crime databases;
23 or supervising or serving as the command officer to a person or
24 persons having such duties and responsibilities. However, the
25 term does not include administrative support personnel,
26 including, but not limited to, those whose primary duties and
27 responsibilities are in accounting, purchasing, legal, and
28 personnel.

29 (b) "Department" means the Department of Health.

30 (c) "Public safety telecommunication training program"
31 means a 911 emergency public safety telecommunications training
32 program that the department determines to be equivalent to the
33 public safety telecommunication training program curriculum
34 framework developed by the Department of Education and consists
35 of not less than 232 hours.

36 (2) PERSONNEL; STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION.—

37 (a) Any person who desires to be certified or recertified
38 as a 911 emergency dispatcher may apply to the department under
39 oath on forms provided by the department. The department shall
40 establish by rule educational and training criteria for the
41 certification and recertification of 911 emergency dispatchers.



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42 (b) A public safety agency, as defined s. 365.171(3), may
43 employ a 911 public safety telecommunicator trainee for a period
44 not to exceed 12 months if the trainee works under the direct
45 supervision of a certified 911 public safety telecommunicator,
46 as determined by rule of the department, and is enrolled in a
47 public safety telecommunication training program.

48 (c)~~(b)~~ The department shall determine whether the applicant
49 meets the requirements specified in this section and in rules of
50 the department and shall issue a certificate to any person who
51 meets such requirements. Such requirements must include, but
52 need not be limited to, the following:

53 1. Completion of an appropriate 911 emergency dispatcher
54 training program that is equivalent to an ~~the most recently~~
55 approved emergency dispatcher course of the Department of
56 Education and consists of not less than 208 hours;

57 2. Completion and documentation of at least 2 years of
58 supervised full-time employment as a 911 emergency dispatcher
59 since January 1, 2002;

60 3. Certification under oath that the applicant is not
61 addicted to alcohol or any controlled substance;

62 4. Certification under oath that the applicant is free from
63 any physical or mental defect or disease that might impair the
64 applicant's ability to perform his or her duties;

65 5. Submission of the application fee prescribed in
66 subsection (3); and

67 6. Submission of a completed application to the department
68 which indicates compliance with subparagraphs 1., 2., 3., and 4.

69 (d)~~(e)~~ The department shall establish by rule a procedure
70 for the biennial renewal certification of 911 emergency



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71 dispatchers.

72 (e)~~(d)~~ Each 911 emergency dispatcher certificate expires
73 automatically if not renewed at the end of the 2-year period and
74 may be renewed if the holder meets the qualifications for
75 renewal as established by the department. A certificate that is
76 not renewed at the end of the 2-year period automatically
77 reverts to an inactive status for a period that may not exceed
78 180 days. Such certificate may be reactivated and renewed within
79 the 180-day period if the certificateholder meets all other
80 qualifications for renewal and pays a \$50 late fee. Reactivation
81 shall be in a manner and on forms prescribed by department rule.

82 (f)~~(e)~~ The department may suspend or revoke a certificate
83 at any time if it determines that the certificateholder does not
84 meet the applicable qualifications.

85 (g)~~(f)~~ A certificateholder may request that his or her 911
86 emergency dispatcher certificate be placed on inactive status by
87 applying to the department before his or her current
88 certification expires and paying a fee set by the department
89 which may not exceed \$50 ~~\$100~~.

90 1. A certificateholder whose certificate has been on
91 inactive status for 1 year or less may renew his or her
92 certificate pursuant to the rules adopted by the department and
93 upon payment of a renewal fee set by the department which may
94 not exceed \$50 ~~\$100~~.

95 2. A certificateholder whose certificate has been on
96 inactive status for more than 1 year may renew his or her
97 certificate pursuant to rules adopted by the department.

98 3. A certificate that has been inactive for more than 6
99 years automatically expires and may not be renewed.



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100 (h)~~(g)~~ The department shall establish by rule a procedure
101 for the initial certification of 911 emergency dispatchers as
102 defined in this section who have documentation of at least 5
103 years of supervised full-time employment as a 911 emergency
104 dispatcher since January 1, 2002.

105 (3) FEES.—

106 (a) The fee for application for the 911 emergency
107 dispatcher original certificate is \$50 ~~\$75~~.

108 (b) The application fee for the 911 emergency dispatcher
109 biennial renewal certificate set by the department, which may
110 not exceed \$50 ~~is \$100~~.

111 (c) The application fee for department approval of a public
112 safety telecommunication training program set by the department,
113 which may not exceed \$50.

114 (d)~~(e)~~ Fees collected under this section shall be deposited
115 into the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund and used solely
116 for salaries and expenses of the department incurred in
117 administering this section.

118 (e)~~(d)~~ If a certificate issued under this section is lost
119 or destroyed, the person to whom the certificate was issued may,
120 upon payment of a fee set by the department which may not exceed
121 \$25, obtain a duplicate or substitute certificate.

122 (f)~~(e)~~ Upon surrender of the original 911 emergency
123 dispatcher certificate and receipt of a replacement fee set by
124 the department which may not exceed \$25, the department shall
125 issue a replacement certificate to make a change in name.

126 Section 3. The Legislature finds that this act fulfills
127 important state interest.

128 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.



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===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to public safety telecommunicators;
amending s. 365.172, F.S.; providing that E911 service
includes dispatching functions; amending s. 401.465,
F.S.; defining the term "public safety
telecommunication training program"; authorizing a
public safety agency to employ a 911 public safety
telecommunicator trainee for a specified period under
certain circumstances; revising the fee for placing an
emergency dispatcher certificate on inactive status;
revising the fee for the renewal of an inactive
emergency dispatcher certificate; revising the fee for
the initial application and renewal of a 911 emergency
dispatcher original certificate; providing the
application fee for the approval of a public safety
telecommunication training program; providing that the
act fulfills a important state interest; providing an
effective date.