

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2     An act relating to public safety; amending s. 365.171,  
3     F.S.; revising legislative intent relating to 911  
4     systems; requiring each county, and every public  
5     agency within such county, to provide specified 911,  
6     emergency call, and dispatch services from a  
7     centralized 911 call center operated by the county or  
8     a regional entity as decided by specified boards;  
9     requiring state funds for emergency services be  
10    redirected to each county that operates such centers;  
11    prohibiting certain counties from receiving state  
12    funds; requiring the board of county commissioners of  
13    each county to convene a specified board within a  
14    certain time period; providing membership requirements  
15    of such board; requiring the board to decide by a  
16    unanimous vote the entity for the county that will  
17    operate its centralized 911 call center and funding  
18    for such entity; prohibiting funding from exceeding a  
19    specified dollar amount; requiring a certain board of  
20    county commissioners to convene a specified board  
21    within a certain time period in order for the county  
22    to establish a regional centralized 911 call center;  
23    providing membership requirements of such board;  
24    requiring the responsibilities and requirements of the  
25    board to be identical to another board; requiring the

board to decide by a unanimous vote the entity for the region that will operate its centralized 911 call center and funding for such entity; prohibiting funding from exceeding a specified dollar amount unless agreed to by a specified vote of the board; requiring certain counties to convene a specified board for a specific purpose; providing responsibilities of specified boards following the establishment of a centralized 911 call center; providing membership composition of such boards; requiring an entity that operates a centralized 911 call center to maintain its headquarters in a specified location for a specific purpose; authorizing the entity an alternate locations in certain circumstances; providing the sheriff shall be deemed the entity to provide 911, emergency call, and dispatch services in a county in certain circumstances; requiring all existing 911 operations within such county to be integrated under the sheriff and every public agency within such county to participate; requiring state funds to be redirected to the sheriff for a specified purpose; prohibiting certain expenditures from being included in the sheriff's budget; prohibiting entities from transferring certain emergency calls; requiring

51        entities to maintain interoperability with other  
52        emergency communications centers; requiring such  
53        entities to maintain certain cybersecurity standards;  
54        requiring vendors of certain systems to provide, at no  
55        additional cost, specified capabilities to 911 call  
56        centers; prohibiting such vendors from imposing any  
57        additional licensing or integration fee for any system  
58        that enables integration of systems used by 911 call  
59        centers; requiring every 911 call center and public  
60        safety answering point, and any related system, to be  
61        deemed critical infrastructure; providing definitions;  
62        requiring specified boards or the sheriff to make a  
63        certain certification in writing to the office by  
64        specified dates; providing a reporting requirement;  
65        providing penalties for noncompliance; providing an  
66        effective date.

67  
68        Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

69  
70        **Section 1. Subsections (2) and (4) of section 365.171,**  
71        **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

72        365.171 Emergency communications state plan.—

73        (2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—It is the intent of the  
74        Legislature that the communications number "911" be the  
75        designated emergency communications number. A public safety

76 agency may not advertise or otherwise promote the use of any  
77 communications number for emergency response services other than  
78 "911." It is further the intent of the Legislature to implement  
79 and continually update a cohesive statewide emergency  
80 communications plan for enhanced 911 services which will provide  
81 citizens with rapid direct access to public safety agencies by  
82 accessing "911" with the objective of reducing the response time  
83 to situations requiring law enforcement, fire, medical, rescue,  
84 and other emergency services. It is further the intent of the  
85 Legislature to create a unified 911 system within each county or  
86 region to serve as a single point of contact for all emergency  
87 services in order to maximize efficiency of emergency services.  
88 It is further the intent of the Legislature to prohibit the  
89 transfer of calls between 911 call centers or other law  
90 enforcement, fire, or EMS dispatch centers in the same county,  
91 to maximize the efficiency of the statewide emergency  
92 communications plan for residents dialing "911" for emergency  
93 services. It is further the intent of the Legislature to  
94 maximize interoperability of public safety agencies within each  
95 county and statewide to maximize the efficiency of emergency  
96 communications for residents dialing "911" for emergency  
97 services. The goal of interoperability is to ensure that 911  
98 calls for emergency services, as well as communication and  
99 responses to catastrophic events, are connected directly so that  
100 critical information and resources across multiple disciplines

101 and agencies are coordinated.

102 (4) STATE PLAN.—The office shall develop, maintain, and  
103 implement appropriate modifications for a statewide emergency  
104 communications plan. The plan shall provide for:

105 (a) The public agency emergency communications  
106 requirements for each entity of local government in the state.

107 (b) A system to meet specific local government  
108 requirements. Such system shall include law enforcement,  
109 firefighting, and emergency medical services and may include  
110 other emergency services such as poison control, suicide  
111 prevention, and emergency management services.

112 (c) Identification of the mutual aid agreements necessary  
113 to obtain an effective emergency communications system.

114 (d) A funding provision that identifies the cost necessary  
115 to implement the emergency communications system.

116 (e)1.a. By January 1, 2029, each county, and every public  
117 agency within such county, shall provide 911, emergency call,  
118 and dispatch services from a unified 911 call center, operated  
119 by the county or a regional entity created by an interlocal  
120 agreement or other memorandum of agreement, decided by a  
121 unanimous vote of the Emergency Communication Center (ECC)  
122 Executive Board or the Regional Emergency Communication Center  
123 (RECC) Executive Board, as applicable, pursuant to this  
124 paragraph.

125 b. Upon establishment of a unified 911 call center, all

126 state funds for emergency services shall be redirected to each  
127 county that operates the unified 911 call center. A county that  
128 provides or receives 911, emergency call, and dispatch services,  
129 but does not establish a unified 911 call center pursuant to  
130 this paragraph, may not receive state funds for emergency  
131 services.

132 2.a. Within 90 days after July 1, 2026, in order for a  
133 county to establish a unified 911 call center pursuant to this  
134 paragraph, the board of county commissioners shall convene an  
135 ECC executive board. The chair of the board of county  
136 commissioners or his or her designee shall serve as the chair of  
137 the ECC executive board. The membership of the ECC executive  
138 board shall consist of the city manager or strong mayor, as  
139 applicable, of the largest municipality in each county by  
140 population size that provides law enforcement, fire, and EMS  
141 services, and each agency head that provides law enforcement,  
142 fire, and EMS services operating in the county as of July 1,  
143 2026.

144 b. By January 1, 2027, the ECC executive board must decide  
145 by a unanimous vote, the entity for the county that will operate  
146 its unified 911 call center. Funding for such entity must also  
147 be decided by a unanimous vote of the ECC executive board and  
148 the funding shall be provided by the county and participating  
149 municipalities and agencies or any combination thereof. Any  
150 funding after the establishment of a unified 911 call center

151 required by this paragraph may not exceed any net increase in  
152 the annual purchasing power of the dollar, as reflected in the  
153 Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, unless agreed to  
154 by a unanimous vote of the ECC executive board.

155 3.a Within 90 days after July 1, 2026, in order for a  
156 county to establish a regional unified 911 call center pursuant  
157 to this paragraph, the board of county commissioners of the  
158 county with the largest population participating in the regional  
159 unified 911 call center shall convene an RECC executive board.

160 The chair of the board of county commissioners or his or her  
161 designee shall serve as the chair of the RECC executive board.

162 The membership of the RECC executive board shall consist of:

163 (I) The chair of the board of county commissioners, or his  
164 or her designee, from each participating county.

165 (II) The city manager or strong mayor, as applicable, of  
166 the largest municipality in each participating county by  
167 population size.

168 (III) Every agency head within each participating county  
169 that provides law enforcement, fire, and EMS services operating  
170 in the participating counties as of July 1, 2026.

171  
172 Notwithstanding membership requirements in this subparagraph,  
173 RECC executive board responsibilities and requirements shall  
174 mirror the ECC executive board responsibilities and requirements  
175 pursuant to this paragraph.

176        b. By January 1, 2027, the RECC executive board must  
177        decide by a unanimous vote, the entity for the region that will  
178        operate its unified 911 call center for the participating  
179        counties. Funding for such entity must also be decided by a  
180        unanimous vote of the RECC executive board and the funding shall  
181        be provided by the participating counties, municipalities,  
182        agencies, or any combination thereof. Any funding after the  
183        establishment of a unified 911 call center required by this  
184        paragraph may not exceed any net increase in the annual  
185        purchasing power of the dollar, as reflected in the Consumer  
186        Price Index for All Urban Consumers, unless agreed to by three-  
187        fourths vote of the RECC executive board.

188        4. A county that has an established entity, as of July 1,  
189        2026, that provides law enforcement, fire, and EMS services to  
190        all government provided first responder agencies in the county  
191        shall convene an ECC executive board pursuant to subparagraph 2.  
192        to ensure that the requirements of this paragraph are met.

193        5.a. Following the establishment of a unified 911 call  
194        center by a county pursuant to this paragraph, the ECC executive  
195        board shall serve as an advisor to the entity that operates the  
196        unified 911 call center. The ECC executive board may convene at  
197        a time and place as determined by the chair of the board.  
198        Membership of the ECC executive board shall consist of:

199        (I) One member of the board of county commissioners or his  
200        or her designee.



201        (II) One representative from the county's city council, or  
202 his or her designee.

203        (III) The sheriff or his or her designee.

204        (IV) The police chief and the fire chief of the county.

205  
206 Members may serve on a rotating basis within their respective  
207 category of representation as established by the implementing  
208 rules created by the ECC executive board.

209        b. Following the establishment of a regional unified 911  
210 call center pursuant to this paragraph, the RECC executive board  
211 shall serve as an advisor to the entity that operates the  
212 regional unified 911 call center. The RECC executive board may  
213 convene at a time and place as determined by the chair of the  
214 board. Membership of the RECC executive board shall consist of:

215        (I) One member of the board of county commissioners, or  
216 his or her designee, from each participating county.

217        (II) One representative, or his or her designee, from the  
218 city council of each participating county.

219        (III) The sheriff, or his or her designee, from each  
220 participating county.

221        (IV) The police chief and the fire chief from each  
222 participating county.

223  
224 Members may serve on a rotating basis within their respective  
225 category of representation as established by the implementing

226 rules created by the RECC executive board.

227 6.a. An entity that operates a unified 911 call center  
228 shall maintain its headquarters in one location to serve as the  
229 primary public safety answering point (PSAP). However, an entity  
230 may maintain offices or answering points at various other  
231 locations throughout this state, as required and determined by a  
232 public agency. An entity shall designate an alternate center to  
233 the PSAP. Such center may only receive emergency calls when the  
234 PSAP is unable to receive emergency calls.

235 b. An entity that operates a regional unified 911 call  
236 center shall maintain its headquarters in one location to serve  
237 as the PSAP, but may maintain offices or answering points at  
238 various locations, as required and determined by the public  
239 agencies. However, the entity must designate an alternate center  
240 to the PSAP. Such center may only receive emergency calls when  
241 the PSAP is unable to receive emergency calls.

242 7.a. By January 1, 2027, if a county has not established  
243 the operation of a unified 911 call center pursuant to this  
244 paragraph, the sheriff of the county shall be deemed the entity  
245 to provide 911, emergency call, and dispatch services in the  
246 county. All existing 911 operations within a county shall be  
247 integrated under the sheriff to create a 911 call center, and  
248 every public agency within the county shall participate in the  
249 911 call center to provide such services.

250 b. If the sheriff provides 911, emergency call, and

dispatch services, the state funds for emergency services shall  
be redirected to the sheriff for the sole purpose of operating  
the unified 911 call center and may not be distributed to the  
county. The county shall provide total funding for the 911 call  
center, as determined by the annual needs assessment and as  
requested by the sheriff, but the county does not have any right  
or control over the funds or equipment of the center.  
Expenditures for operating the 911 call center may not be  
included in the sheriff's budget under s. 30.49. Such  
expenditures shall be included in the county's budget in  
accordance with the provisions of chapter 129.

8.a. An entity or regional entity that provides 911,  
emergency call, and dispatch services from a 911 call center may  
not transfer any emergency call received by the entity to any  
other PSAP or call center, unless at least one firefighting, law  
enforcement, ambulance, medical, or other emergency services  
professional, as applicable, has been dispatched in response to  
the emergency call received by the entity.

b. This subparagraph does not prohibit the transfer of an  
emergency call to another PSAP or emergency communications  
center if the reported emergency occurs outside the  
jurisdictional boundaries of the local government where the  
headquarters of the 911 call center is located. In such cases,  
the emergency call shall be promptly transferred to the  
appropriate jurisdiction, consistent with established

276 interagency protocols and mutual-aid agreements.

277 9.a. An entity or regional entity that provides 911,  
278 emergency call, and dispatch services from a 911 call center  
279 shall maintain interoperability with other emergency  
280 communications centers in this state. Such entities shall  
281 maintain proactive cybersecurity standards adopted by the  
282 National Institute of Standards and Technology, as outlined in  
283 the Task Force on Optimal Public Safety Answering Point  
284 Architecture Guidelines. Such entities shall include  
285 cryptographic inventory and ongoing cryptographic monitoring  
286 services, and incorporate behavioral-based, packet-level  
287 monitoring at all times from a Security Operations Center  
288 located in the United States.

289 b. To aid in interoperability and public safety, a vendor  
290 of computer-aided dispatch systems and interoperable radio  
291 communications systems must provide, at no additional cost, the  
292 built-in capability to interface with different PASP CAD systems  
293 and other radio communications systems that, although not  
294 operated or maintained by the vendor, are used in this state by  
295 911 call centers. In addition, a vendor may not impose any  
296 additional licensing or integration fee for any system that  
297 enables integration of such systems, including, but not limited  
298 to, radio communications systems, CAD systems, cyber security  
299 systems, telephone communication systems, interoperability  
300 gateway systems, and Radio over Internet-Protocol (RoIP) gateway

301 systems, used in this state by a 911 call center.

302 c. Every 911 call center and PSAP, and any related system,  
303 including, but not limited to, interoperability gateway systems  
304 and secure IP communications systems that enable cross-system  
305 radio communications, shall be deemed critical infrastructure in  
306 this state.

307 d. As used in this subparagraph:

308 (I) "Critical infrastructure" has the same meaning as in  
309 s. 119.0725(1).

310 (II) "Interoperability" means the technical ability to  
311 communicate across disciplines and jurisdictions statewide.

312 (III) "Interoperability gateway" system means a network  
313 device or platform that provides protocol translation, audio  
314 transcoding, routing, and talk-group management between  
315 otherwise incompatible radio systems, Voice over Internet  
316 Protocol (VoIP) systems, public safety LTE network systems,  
317 mission critical push-to-X services systems, satellite systems,  
318 and IP-based communications systems.

319 (IV) "Radio over Internet Protocol (RoIP) Gateway" system  
320 means hardware or software that enables radio communications to  
321 be transmitted, received, patched, or controlled across IP  
322 networks.

323 10.a. By January 1 2027, and by January 1, 2029, the chair  
324 of the ECC executive board, the chair of the RECC executive  
325 board, or the sheriff, as applicable, shall certify in writing

326 to the office that the county or each participating county, as  
327 applicable, has taken the required action to comply this  
328 paragraph and has established an entity or regional entity to  
329 provide 911, emergency call, and dispatch services.

330 b. By January 30, 2027, and by January 1, 2029, the office  
331 shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the  
332 Senate, and the Speaker of House of Representatives, describing  
333 the results of establishing 911 call centers in this state,  
334 identifying any county that has not established such a center in  
335 violation of this paragraph.

336 11. A county that does not comply with this paragraph by  
337 January 1, 2029, shall have its emergency funding reduced by 25  
338 percent for each year the county does not comply.

339  
340 The office shall be responsible for the implementation and  
341 coordination of such plan. The office shall adopt any necessary  
342 rules and schedules related to public agencies for implementing  
343 and coordinating the plan, pursuant to chapter 120.

344 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.