CS/CS/HB 163 — Prepaid Wireless Telecommunications

by Finance & Tax Council; Energy & Utilities Policy Committee; and Rep Gibbons (CS/CS/CS/SB 1202 by General Government Appropriations Committee; Judiciary Committee; Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities, Committee; and Senator Bennett)

The bill amends ss. 365.172 and 365.173, F.S., providing that the E911 Board shall collect the E911 fee from the sale of prepaid wireless service, beginning July 1, 2013, if it determines that a fee should be collected from the sale of such service and the service is a prepaid calling arrangement that is subject to sales and use tax under s. 212.05(1)(e), F.S. Before July 1, 2013, the E911 fee shall not be assessed on or collected from providers with respect to prepaid calling arrangements. The bill strikes obsolete language requiring the Board to conduct an already completed study concerning the feasibility of collecting E911 fees from the sale of prepaid wireless service. The bill increases to 30 percent, from current law's 20 percent, the portion of funds disbursed to a county from the Emergency Communications Number E911 System Fund for capital outlay, capital improvement, or equipment replacement which the county may carry forward into the next calendar year.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2010.

Vote: Senate 35-0; House 112-0