

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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GORDON J. BRUCE  
DIRECTOR & CIO

February 17, 2009

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on  
Consumer Protection & Commerce  
State House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Herkes and Members:

**Subject: House Bill No. 1014, HD1, (HSCR224)  
Relating to Enhanced 911 Services**

On June 12, 1996 the FCC ADOPTED RULES TO IMPLEMENT  
ENHANCED 911 FOR WIRELESS SERVICES (CC Docket No. 94-102).

Hawaii Act 159/SLH 2004 (the Act) created a Wireless Enhanced 911 Board (the Board) which is administratively attached to the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS). The purpose of the Act is to provide Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP's) and wireless providers with the funding needed to acquire technology that will enable PSAP's receiving 911 calls from wireless phones to see the caller's identification and location.

There is established outside the state treasury a special fund, to be known as the wireless enhanced 911 fund, to be administered by the board. The fund shall consist of amounts collected under section 138-4. Monies paid into the fund are not general fund revenues of the State.

Over the past years, we have seen tremendous progress in the delivery of public safety, the result of efforts put forward by the WE911 board and the county 911 call centers. Lives have been saved, tourists have been rescued, and kidnappings have been prevented as a result of WE911 deployment.

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair,  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
February 17, 2009  
Page 2

The fund was established with specific intent and specific language to prevent its use for other purposes. To my knowledge, the Board has acted with fiscal prudence in its management of the fund. PSAP's have now reached a point where expenditures for the fund will be considerable in nature. To this end, the Oahu PSAP's are against reducing the surcharge. Reducing the surcharge jeopardizes the ability to provide the services for which it was intended.

Finally, there is a need to support Next Generation 911 (NG911). There is potential to utilize WE911 fund to support NG911.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon J. Bruce", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and loops back to the left.

Gordon J. Bruce  
Director and Chief Information Officer



Dan Youmans  
Director  
External Affairs

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February 18, 2009

The Honorable Rep. Robert Herkes  
Chair, Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee  
Hawaii State Legislature

*RE: Request to Hold HB 1014 H.D. 1*

Dear Rep. Herkes and Members of the Committee:

AT&T requests that House Bill 1014 H.D. 1 be held by the Committee until the issue over cost reimbursement by landline providers for wireless E911 costs can be adequately addressed by all stakeholders. This provision was added to the legislation on Page 2, lines 17-18, and raises serious questions about how the wireless E911 fund would be utilized by landline providers.

Typically, if landline providers incur costs for E911 technology, those costs are paid by the Public Safety Answering Points (the name used for the local government agencies that operate E911 centers). The rates for these costs are set by tariff by the state Public Utility Commission. The landline providers should not need to seek cost recovery from the wireless E911 Fund, which consists of the E911 surcharges paid by wireless customers.

Under House Bill 1014 H.D. 1, the landline providers would have the ability to draw on the wireless E911 fund for "cost recovery for the deployment, improvement, and maintenance of Phase I and Phase II wireless enhanced 911 service." It is unclear to AT&T what costs these might entail for the wireline providers, and what demand this would place on the fund.

AT&T would like the opportunity to explore the issues raised over equipment that must be purchased by landline providers for wireless E911 purposes, but is currently not being reimbursed for these cost. Holding HB 1014 H.D. 1 in Committee will allow us the opportunity for these discussions.

On a separate issue, AT&T is pleased to see that the legislation would reduce the wireless E911 surcharge from 66 cents to 29 cents.

Thank you for consider our request to hold HB 1014. H.D.1. If you have any questions concerning AT&T's position on this bill, please contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Youmans  
AT&T