

WISCONSIN CHIEF'S OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

The Wisconsin Chief's of Police Association is in opposition to AB 61 which relates to wireless 911 emergency telephone service. It is not that the WCPA is against the idea of wireless 911, we support wireless 911 and believe it is urgently needed in the State of Wisconsin, it is this bill that we are in opposition to. The WCPA urges you to contact your legislative representatives and solicit their support to defeat this bill. This is on the fast track so time is of the essence.

The items enumerated below are some of the main deficiencies in the bill as it is currently proposed:

1. The bill has a three (3) year sunset. Ongoing costs including \$96.73 per trunk per month and \$.13 per call (re-bids, ie. Transferred calls are also \$.13/call) will not be funded after the bills sunset.
2. The bill only funds one wireless PSAP per county with the County Board determining who the PSAP will be. This is inefficient in that most County dispatch centers will need to transfer the call. The WCPA wants each of the 142 PSAP's statewide to be funded for wireless 911. The WCPA believes a cellular 911 call should be routed to the closest most appropriate dispatch center.
3. When an enhanced wireless call is received at a County dispatch center and transferred, the receiving agency will not be able to accept the data (ANI/ALI) information unless they have upgraded their own equipment. Under the proposed legislation this is at their own expense. This creates an unfunded State mandate. Additionally, it creates serious inefficiencies and interjects potential for error as the receiving dispatchers re-enter all the information.
4. The authors of AB61 refer to the one dispatch center per county as the "consolidation" component of the bill. History has shown that having wireless 911 answered in one location per county (which is currently the case and has been for years) does not promote consolidation.
5. Calls received from large buildings or inside structures may not be identified by location at all. A County dispatch center that is not familiar with another agencies area may not be able to locate the call and they would not have access to the local database which may help locate the call.
6. The bill does not preclude Counties from initiating a chargeback to municipalities for answering wireless calls.