



## **STRONGER COUNTIES. STRONGER OHIO.**

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## **HC 0401: 9-1-1 fee increase amendment**

### **Request to Legislators:**

Ask your legislator to add HC 0401 to their amendment list. It is vital that we have multiple legislators submit this exact amendment before the amendment deadline of March 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Amendment Summary:**

The previous budget (HB 33) increased the statewide user fee from 25 cents to 40 cents and expanded to other devices that can contact 9-1-1 such as VoIP channels. The fee increase was expected to bring in around \$100 million a year and is currently bringing in \$50 million a year. The amendment would cover that \$50 million shortfall and provide counties with additional funding to cover future technology upgrades for 9-1-1.

### **Talking Points:**

- If you are a pilot county or currently operating an NG 9-1-1 system highlight the impact of the system on your community.
  - Examples may include:
    - Decrease in the number of call transfers;
    - Ability to consolidate PSAP's; and
    - Real examples of the lifesaving technology provided by NG 9-1-1.
- If you are not a pilot county or currently operating a NG 9-1-1 system, the NG 9-1-1 system offers many benefits, including:
  - Allows for precise geolocating for dispatchers to increase response time for first responders;
  - Allows citizens to text to 9-1-1 or send videos to privately contact 9-1-1 if they are in a vulnerable situation;
  - Allow dispatchers to transfer information collected when the caller crosses county lines; and
  - Virtually eliminates the possibility that a 9-1-1 call will be disconnected or "dropped."
- The previous operating budget increased the monthly user fee from 25 cents per month to 40 cents per month and expanded that fee to apply to wireless devices, VoIP channels, and Multi-telephone Systems (MTS).
- The revenue from that fee was expected to bring in around \$100 million dollars a year to



the state and counties. The fee is currently bringing in around \$50 million.

- The system is going to go live statewide during 2025 and counties need financial support to upgrade and operate this system at the local level.

**Additional information about nationwide 9-1-1 landscape:**

**Number of 9-1-1 calls made during 2021 broken down by service type**

State	Wireline	Wireless	VoIP	Other	Total
Ohio	532,507	5,132,812	376,449	116,813	6,302,368
Kentucky	486,738	2,290,531	146,696	29,178	2,953,143
Pennsylvania	1,228,593	6,124,035	518,656	195,770	8,110,069
Michigan	368,320	5,187,067	487,378	N/A	6,042,765
Indiana	155,858	3,720,103	244,308	N/A	4,120,269
Texas	1,232,627	15,884,236	860,448	565,813	18,543,164
Florida	948,289	13,258,233	858,029	980,945	16,045,496

Source: FCC [Sixteenth Annual Report to Congress on 911 Fees](#)

**9-1-1 user fees by state**

Source: [NENA Report](#)

State	Wireline	Wireless	VoIP
Ohio	\$0.50 (Max) (Legally limited to a few Counties, no general surcharge.	\$0.40 0.5% Point of Sale - Prepaid	\$0.40 per device, up to 100 per channel
Kentucky	\$0.00 - \$7.00 Local Government option varies per county	\$0.70 \$0.93 Point of Sale - Prepaid	\$0.00 - \$7.00 Local Government option varies per county
Pennsylvania	\$1.95	\$1.95 \$1.95 Point of Sale - Prepaid	\$1.95
Michigan	\$0.25 State Fee \$0.00 - \$3.00 by County	\$0.25 State Fee \$0.00 - \$3.00 by County 5% Point of Sale - Prepaid	\$0.25 State Fee \$0.00 - \$3.00 by County
Indiana	\$1.00	\$1.00 \$1.00 Point	\$1.00

		of Sale - Prepaid	
Texas	\$0.50 State Program Fees Vary - District	\$0.50 State Program 2% of Sales - Prepaid	\$0.50 State Program Fees Vary - District
Florida	\$0.40	\$0.40 \$0.40 Prepaid	\$0.40

### Ranking of state/federal fees by state

Source: [Tax Foundation Cell Phone Taxes 2023](#) Taxes, Fees, and Government Surcharges on Wireless Service, July 2023, State Rankings

Rank	State	Wireless State Rate
41	Ohio	8.58%
29	Kentucky	11.09%
8	Pennsylvania	16.77%
34	Michigan	9.94%
27	Indiana	11.47%
7	Texas	17.42%
14	Florida	15.06%