

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7028**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 286**

**DATE PREPARED:** Feb 12, 1999

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 11, 1999

**SUBJECT:** Universal 911 emergency telephone number.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Brian Tabor

**PHONE NUMBER:** 233-9456

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **X FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill provides that 911 is the universal emergency telephone number. It requires a communication system established or operated by the state or a local government unit that is available to members of the public as a means to report an emergency and to request assistance to use 911 as the exclusive universal emergency telephone number.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 1999.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill declares that 911 is the universal emergency telephone number in Indiana. It should not require any additional expenditures by the state or its agencies.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** This bill would not directly affect state or local revenues. However, there may be an impact resulting from pending federal telecommunications legislation. The Wireless Communications and Public Safety (WICAPS) Act of 1998 (H. R. 3844) was introduced on May 12. This legislation would establish the WICAPS Fund from which matching grants and Rural Assistance Grants would be appropriated.

Upon passage, H. R. 3844 would require states to declare that 911 is the sole designated emergency telephone number in order to be eligible for WICAPS funding. The Fund would receive revenue from the leasing of government property to wireless carriers, and grants would be available only to help cover the costs of developing enhanced wireless 911 service and emergency education and prevention. The amount of money that could become available to Indiana through H. R. 3844 is not known at this time.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Although residents of Martin and Parke counties do not currently use 911, (but rather the local law enforcement official's telephone number), local units should not incur any additional expenses related to this proposal. This bill would only affect communications systems established or operated by the local units themselves, not local exchange service. However, if a governmental unit or

agency develops a system available to the public to report an emergency or request assistance, 911 must be the emergency number used.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** Local governments may benefit from the Rural Assistance Grants that would be established by H. R. 3844 and distributed to state governments (see Explanation of State Revenues above).

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Mike Guffey, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, (317) 232-4708; Bonnie Dick, President, National Emergency Number Association - Indiana Chapter, (317) 896-6607.