

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 989
By: Nelson
Economic Development
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, local governments separately contract with each provider for 9-1-1 collections and hold every provider accountable for the proper installation and operation of 9-1-1 service. The existing arrangement places an excessive burden on local governments and threatens the integrity of the 9-1-1 emergency system. This bill would require an area's dominant local exchange carrier to be solely responsible for supervising and directing the installation, operation, and maintenance of 9-1-1 emergency service among the various telecommunication vendors.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 989 requires an area's dominant local exchange carrier to be solely responsible for supervising and directing the installation, operation, and maintenance of 9-1-1 emergency service among the various telecommunication vendors.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 772, Health and Safety Code, by adding Subchapter F, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER F. 9-1-1 SERVICE

Sec. 772.501. DEFINITIONS. Defines "certificated telecommunications utility," "dominant carrier," "dominant certificated telecommunications utility," "local exchange company," "9-1-1 service," "nondominant certificated telecommunications utility," "private switch," "private switch provider," "public agency," and "service user."

Sec. 772.502. 9-1-1 SERVICE. Requires a dominant certificated telecommunications utility to take certain actions and be responsible for certain tasks. Prohibits a public agency from being required to serve as a customer of a local exchange company or otherwise be responsible for the provision of 9-1-1 service other than as the public safety answering point.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.