



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commission Members

FROM: Cliff Lippard *Cliff*
Executive Director

DATE: 6 December 2016

SUBJECT: Emergency Communications Services Funding (Public Chapter 795, Acts of 2014—Update and Panel Discussion)

Public Chapter 795, Acts of 2014, created a new funding mechanism for emergency communications services in Tennessee. The Act replaced the two-tier funding system characterized by different 911 surcharge rates for wireline phone and wireless phone service, with a flat-rate surcharge of \$1.16 on both. Emergency communications districts receive a distribution based on the amounts they received from the TECB and from direct remittances for fiscal years 2010, 2011, and 2012. The Act also required the Commission to study the funding, functionality, and other effects of the Act and report its conclusions to the joint committee on government operations on or before September 15, 2017.

The Commission will hear from two panels, one, at this meeting, consisting of state and local government officials who work in the emergency communications field and the other, at the January 2017 meeting, consisting of telecommunications industry representatives. The first panel includes

- Chuck Haston, director, Warren County Emergency Communications District;
- Jamison Peevyhouse, director, Weakley County 911 Communications Center, 2nd vice president, National Emergency Number Association (NENA), and committee member, Tennessee Emergency Number Association (TENA);
- Randy Porter, Putnam County executive, former 911 director, former chair of the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB);
- John Stuermer, executive director, Hamilton County 911 Emergency Communications District, vice chairman, Tennessee 911 Association; and
- Curtis Sutton, executive director, Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB).