## LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

## ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 652**

Introduced by Transportation and Telecommunications Committee: Smith, 14, Chairperson; Brasch, 16; Davis, 43; Friesen, 34; Garrett, 3; Seiler, 33.

Read first time January 21, 2015

## Committee:

- A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to telecommunications; to amend sections 1 28-1311, 75-132.01, 77-2703.04, 84-712.05, 86-163, 86-435, 86-438, 2 86-457, 86-463, and 86-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 75-109.01 and 75-156, Revised Statutes Cumulative 4 5 Supplement, 2014; to adopt the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act; to change the offense of interference with a public service 6 company; to provide powers and duties for the Public Service 7 Commission; to change provisions relating to use of funds; to 8 9 terminate a certain surcharge; to change a fee; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; and to repeal the original 10 11 sections.
- 12 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 21 of this act shall be known and may be

- 2 <u>cited as the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act.</u>
- 3 Sec. 2. The purposes of the 911 Emergency Services Communications
- 4 Act are to establish a statewide governing authority and to establish a
- 5 <u>funding mechanism that ensures all Nebraskans, without regard to their</u>
- 6 location or abilities, have comparable accessibility to communicate for
- 7 <u>911 emergency services.</u>
- 8 Sec. 3. It is the intent of the Legislature that:
- 9 (1) The statewide governing authority provide oversight to plan,
- 10 <u>implement</u>, fund, manage, and maintain 911 emergency services
- 11 <u>communication;</u>
- 12 (2) Local governing bodies will continue to provide dispatch and 911
- 13 <u>emergency services;</u>
- 14 (3) Comprehensive statewide 911 coordination includes statewide
- 15 planning, funding support, stakeholder involvement, uniform adherence to
- 16 established technical and training standards, influencing policy creation
- 17 to benefit all stakeholders, public education, training, enforcement,
- 18 <u>rulemaking, procurement authority, grant writing assistance, grant</u>
- 19 <u>management</u>, <u>dispute resolution</u>, <u>and program evaluation</u>;
- 20 (4) The jurisdictional roles of the state, regional, and local
- 21 governing authorities be clearly defined and aligned for the most
- 22 efficient operation of 911 emergency services communication;
- 23 (5) Public and private partnerships be promoted;
- 24 (6) Statewide standards be adopted for both technical and training
- 25 efficiency and that quality assurance plans be adopted;
- 26 (7) All stakeholders be actively involved in the process; and
- 27 <u>(8) Adequate training be provided to all stakeholders.</u>
- Sec. 4. For purposes of the 911 Emergency Services Communications
- 29 <u>Act:</u>
- 30 (1) 911 call means any two-way form of communication requesting
- 31 emergency assistance by contacting a public safety answering point and

- 1 includes voice and nonvoice communications that are subject to applicable
- 2 state or federal requirements to provide such 911 dialing capability.
- 3 Wireless and Internet-protocol-enabled services exempt from Federal
- 4 Communications Commission regulations for 911 communications service, 911
- 5 <u>service</u>, and next generation 911 service are excluded from this
- 6 definition;
- 7 (2) 911 emergency services means the provision of firefighting, law
- 8 <u>enforcement, medical, or other public services as determined by the local</u>
- 9 governing bodies to respond to and manage emergency incidents;
- 10 (3) 911 emergency services communication means a coordinated system
- 11 of technologies used to operate a network for receiving and processing
- 12 <u>incident-related information to facilitate an emergency response and</u>
- 13 <u>includes basic or enhanced 911 calls made by telephone, text to 911,</u>
- 14 Internet-protocol-based applications, and emerging technologies that
- 15 <u>allow the public to access 911 emergency services;</u>
- 16 (4) 911 emergency services communication provider means any person
- 17 providing the infrastructure, network, applications, or service necessary
- 18 for the public to make a 911 call. The term includes local exchange
- 19 <u>carriers, wireless carriers, prepaid wireless telecommunications service</u>
- 20 providers as defined in section 86-902 and interconnected voice over
- 21 Internet protocol providers, but does not include providers of advanced
- 22 telecommunications service that do not provide retail service capable of
- 23 making a 911 call;
- 24 (5) Advanced telecommunications service means high-speed, broadband
- 25 telecommunications capability provided by a local exchange carrier,
- 26 <u>wireless service provider, Internet service provider, or other provider</u>
- 27 that enables service users to originate and receive voice, data,
- 28 graphics, and video communications;
- 29 (6) Commission means the Public Service Commission;
- 30 (7) Fund means the 911 Emergency Services Communication Fund;
- 31 (8) Interconnected voice over Internet protocol service means

1 interconnected voice over Internet protocol service as defined in 47

- 2 <u>C.F.R. Part 9;</u>
- 3 (9) Internet protocol means the method by which digital data is sent
- 4 from one computer to another on the Internet or other networks;
- 5 (10) Local governing body means the county board, the city council
- 6 of a city, the board of trustees of a village, or the board of directors
- 7 of any rural or suburban fire protection district;
- 8 (11) Next-generation 911 service means 911 service using in whole or
- 9 <u>in part next generation 911 technology;</u>
- 10 (12) Next generation 911 technology means equipment, products, or
- 11 services that enable a public safety answering point to receive calls for
- 12 <u>emergency assistance by voice, text, video, or successor technology</u>
- 13 <u>utilizing, in whole or in part, Internet protocol or any successor</u>
- 14 technology, as defined under federal law, regulation, or industry
- 15 standard, as applicable, whether provided pursuant to Federal
- 16 Communications Commission regulation or voluntarily in coordination with
- 17 public safety answering points;
- 18 (13) Public safety agency means an agency that provides
- 19 firefighting, police, medical, or other emergency services as determined
- 20 by the local governing bodies to respond to and manage emergency
- 21 incidents;
- 22 (14) Public safety answering point means an entity responsible for
- 23 receiving 911 calls and processing those calls according to a specific
- 24 <u>operational policy; and</u>
- 25 (15) Service user means any person who is provided 911 call services
- 26 in this state.
- 27 Sec. 5. (1) The commission shall, as necessary, be the statewide
- 28 governing authority for 911 emergency services communication. The
- 29 commission shall develop and establish a funding mechanism to carry out
- 30 the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act. The commission shall be
- 31 responsible for the implementation and operation of coordinated,

- 1 intrastate networks for 911 emergency services communication, including
- 2 the coordination of delivery, purchase, maintenance, and operation of any
- 3 required equipment approved by the commission. The statewide governing
- 4 authority shall ensure comprehensive statewide 911 coordination with all
- 5 stakeholders. The commission shall create a position of a state 911
- 6 coordinator for purposes of relevant state and federal program
- 7 requirements. The commission may coordinate with local governing bodies,
- 8 other states, tribal governments, and the federal government to carry out
- 9 the act. The commission may cooperate with and enter into contracts with
- 10 <u>other state agencies, experts, agents, employees, vendors, or consultants</u>
- 11 <u>to carry out the act in accordance with state contracting practices.</u>
- 12 (2) The commission's authority as the statewide governing body for
- 13 911 emergency services communication includes the funding of
- 14 communication systems designed to assist the public in communicating with
- 15 public safety agencies. Funding from the 911 surcharge is not intended to
- 16 fully fund emergency services. Nothing in the act is intended to disallow
- 17 other sources of funding of 911 emergency services communication.
- 18 (3) The commission shall be responsible for statewide planning and
- 19 deployment of services to ensure 911 emergency services communication
- 20 <u>serves all people at a consistent level of service.</u>
- 21 (4) The commission may coordinate with and provide technical
- 22 assistance to public safety answering points, supporting 911
- 23 organizations and authorities, and other public safety and emergency
- 24 medical service entities regarding 911 implementation, as appropriate and
- 25 necessary. The commission may develop technical and operational standards
- 26 for public safety answering points to ensure system security and
- 27 continuity of operations, including, but not limited to: System access
- 28 controls; border control functions; service user access and identity;
- 29 <u>data and hardware protection; and disaster management and recovery.</u>
- 30 <u>(5) The commission may initiate a request for proposals for</u>
- 31 statewide contracts. Public safety answering points are not required to

- 1 participate in such contracts.
- 2 (6) The commission shall have the authority to participate in
- 3 <u>activities to implement and operate interconnecting next-generation 911</u>
- 4 systems with neighboring states and the federal government.
- 5 Sec. 6. (1) The 911 Emergency Services Communication Fund is
- 6 created.
- 7 (2) The fund shall provide dedicated and sustainable funding to make
- 8 911 emergency services communication available to all persons in the
- 9 state consistent with the policies set forth in the 911 Emergency
- 10 Services Communications Act. Anyone receiving support from the fund shall
- 11 use the support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of
- 12 <u>facilities and services for which the support is intended. Any such</u>
- 13 <u>support should be explicit and sufficient to achieve the purpose of the</u>
- 14 911 Emergency Services Communications Act.
- 15 (3) The fund shall consist of the surcharges credited to the fund,
- 16 any money appropriated by the Legislature, any federal funds received for
- 17 emergency services communication, and any other funds designated for
- 18 credit to the fund. Money in the fund shall be used for the costs of
- 19 administering the fund and the purposes specified in section 6 of this
- 20 act unless otherwise directed by federal law with respect to federal
- 21 <u>funds</u>. Funds collected from the imposition of a service surcharge shall
- 22 be credited to a separate fund and shall be used solely to pay for costs
- 23 for 911 service. The money in the fund shall not be subject to any
- 24 fiscal-year limitation or lapse provision of unexpended balance at the
- 25 end of any fiscal year or biennium.
- 26 (4) The commission may apply for and accept gifts, grants,
- 27 contributions, and bequests from any department, agency, or subdivision
- 28 of federal, state, county, or municipal government and any individual,
- 29 <u>foundation, corporation, association, or public authority for the purpose</u>
- 30 of providing or receiving services, facilities, or staff assistance in
- 31 connection with its work. Such funds will be deposited in the fund.

- 1 (5) Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested
- 2 <u>by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital</u>
- 3 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.
- 4 Sec. 7. (1) In addition to other provisions of the 911 Emergency
- 5 Services Communications Act, and to the extent not prohibited by federal
- 6 law, the commission:
- 7 (a) Shall have authority and power to issue orders carrying out its
- 8 <u>responsibilities and to review the compliance of any eligible entity</u>
- 9 receiving support for continued compliance with any orders, rules, or
- 10 regulations adopted pursuant to the act;
- 11 (b) May withhold all or a portion of the funds, after reasonable
- 12 <u>notice and hearing, to be distributed from any entity failing to continue</u>
- 13 compliance with the commission's orders, rules, or regulations;
- 14 (c) Shall require every 911 emergency services communication
- 15 provider to collect and remit surcharges established by the commission
- 16 pursuant to state law. The commission may require, as reasonably
- 17 necessary, a periodic audit of any 911 emergency services communication
- 18 provider, to be performed by a third-party certified public accountant to
- 19 insure the billing, collection, and remittance of a surcharge for 911
- 20 <u>emergency services communication</u>. The costs of any audit required
- 21 pursuant to this subdivision may be paid by the 911 emergency services
- 22 communication provider being audited; and
- 23 <u>(d) May administratively fine pursuant to section 75-156 any person</u>
- 24 who violates the act.
- 25 (2) The commission shall determine the standards and procedures
- 26 reasonably necessary, adopt and promulgate rules and regulations as
- 27 reasonably required, and enter into such contracts with other agencies,
- 28 local governing bodies, public safety answering points, or private
- 29 organizations or entities as may be reasonably necessary to efficiently
- 30 develop, implement, and operate the fund and carry out the purposes of
- 31 the act.

- 1 (3) The commission shall develop a cybersecurity policy to prevent
- 2 and respond to security breaches with the potential to disrupt 911
- 3 emergency services communication or disclose protected information prior
- 4 to the implementation of a statewide network for 911 emergency services
- 5 communication.
- 6 Sec. 8. (1) The commission shall administer the fund and oversee
- 7 statewide 911 emergency services communication with the advice of an
- 8 advisory board.
- 9 (2) The Statewide 911 Advisory Board is created to provide strategic
- 10 recommendations and guidance for matters impacting 911 emergency services
- 11 <u>communication. The advisory board shall be composed of twelve individuals</u>
- 12 <u>appointed by the Governor, including:</u>
- 13 (a) One representative of a public safety answering point of a city
- 14 of the metropolitan class;
- (b) One representative of a public safety answering point managed by
- 16 a sheriff;
- 17 <u>(c) One representative of a public safety answering point not</u>
- 18 managed by a sheriff;
- (d) One representative of county officials or county employees;
- 20 <u>(e) One representative of municipal officials or municipal</u>
- 21 employees;
- 22 (f) One representative from the state's local exchange
- 23 <u>telecommunications service industry;</u>
- 24 (q) One representative from the state's wireless telecommunications
- 25 industry;
- 26 (h) One representative from the state's advanced telecommunications
- 27 service industry;
- 28 (i) One member of the public representing accessibility issues such
- 29 as the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, the blind and visually
- 30 impaired community, non-English speakers, low-income populations, the
- 31 disabled, schools, hospitals, or behavioral or mental health communities;

1 (j) A representative of the office of the Chief Information Officer;

- 2 and
- 3 (k) A representative of the chief medical officer as designated in
- 4 section 81-3115.
- 5 The advisory board shall also include an ex officio member from the
- 6 commission.
- 7 (3) The advisory board shall:
- 8 (a) Assist the commission in ensuring comparable access to 911
- 9 emergency services to all Nebraskans;
- 10 (b) Foster comprehensive statewide 911 coordination;
- 11 (c) Provide input on the level of 911 funding needed;
- 12 (d) Review and make comments to the commission on pending rule
- 13 <u>changes</u>, <u>orders</u>, <u>and the level of 911 funding needed</u>;
- (e) Assist the commission in developing standards;
- 15 (f) Provide input to the commission on 911 system strategic
- 16 planning;
- 17 (q) Provide input to the commission on 911 standards and performance
- 18 measuring programs;
- 19 (h) Provide input to the commission on public education efforts
- 20 needed; and
- 21 (i) Refer matters to subcommittees of the board or request the input
- 22 of stakeholders, including state agencies or local governing bodies on
- 23 matters before the board.
- 24 (4) The advisory board shall adopt bylaws governing its operation,
- 25 including a code of ethical conduct, by December 1, 2015.
- 26 (5) The advisory board shall meet as needed. The advisory board
- 27 shall prepare an annual report on its activities to be included in the
- 28 <u>commission's annual telecommunications report to the Legislature under</u>
- 29 <u>section 86-163.</u>
- 30 (6) Members shall be appointed for terms of three years and shall
- 31 receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for their actual and

- 1 necessary expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.
- 2 (7) Meetings of the advisory board are subject to the Open Meetings
- 3 Act.
- 4 Sec. 9. (1) In consultation with the statewide 911 Advisory Board,
- 5 the commission shall use the fund to create a master plan to implement
- 6 next-generation 911 statewide. Next-generation 911 shall be designed to
- 7 provide access to 911 emergency services communication and to provide
- 8 <u>multimedia data capabilities for public safety answering points. The</u>
- 9 commission may contract with a subject-matter expert consultant to
- 10 develop the master plan.
- 11 (2) The master plan shall include development, phased-in
- 12 implementation, and management of next-generation 911 and the deployment,
- 13 interconnection, and management of 911 emergency services communication,
- 14 including, but not limited to, necessary technological upgrades,
- 15 geographic information systems, public safety answering point training,
- 16 public education, and any other necessary issues related to next-
- 17 generation 911.
- 18 (3) The master plan shall address capital replacement needs and
- 19 <u>capital infrastructure expenses for a statewide network for 911 emergency</u>
- 20 <u>services communication</u>.
- 21 (4) The master plan shall address the method by which all affected
- 22 parties transition from current funding means to the new methodology as
- 23 adopted by the commission.
- 24 Sec. 10. (1) The provision of 911 emergency services shall be the
- 25 responsibility of each county. A local governing body may incur any
- 26 <u>nonrecurring or recurring charges for the installation, maintenance, and</u>
- 27 <u>operation of 911 emergency services communication and may pay such costs</u>
- 28 out of general funds.
- 29 <u>(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit or</u>
- 30 <u>discourage the formation of regional systems</u>, and any system established
- 31 pursuant to the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act may include

- 1 more than one public safety answering point or may include any portion of
- 2 any geographic area in the state. A public safety agency that receives a
- 3 911 call for 911 emergency services outside its jurisdictional boundaries
- 4 shall transmit the 911 call to the proper public safety answering point
- 5 or public safety agency. Public safety agencies within a single system
- 6 and public agencies in different systems but whose jurisdictional
- 7 boundaries are contiguous are authorized to enter into joint or
- 8 cooperative agreements to implement the requirement of this subsection.
- 9 (3) If 911 emergency services communication is to be provided for a
- 10 <u>territory that is included in whole or in part in the jurisdiction of two</u>
- 11 <u>or more local governing bodies, the agreement for such service shall be</u>
- 12 entered into by each such local governing body unless any such local
- 13 governing body expressly excludes itself from the agreement. Such an
- 14 agreement shall provide that each local governing body that is a customer
- 15 of 911 emergency services communication will pay for its portion of the
- 16 <u>service</u>. Nothing in the act shall be construed to prevent two or more
- 17 <u>local governing bodies from entering into a contract that establishes a</u>
- 18 <u>separate legal entity for the purpose of entering into such an agreement</u>
- 19 <u>as the customer of the service supplier or any supplier of equipment for</u>
- 20 <u>911 emergency services communication.</u>
- 21 (4) If a local governing body's jurisdictional boundaries include a
- 22 local exchange area that intersects jurisdictional boundaries, the
- 23 <u>affected governmental units may cooperate to provide 911 emergency</u>
- 24 services communication through an agreement as provided in the Interlocal
- 25 Cooperation Act or the Joint Public Agency Act.
- 26 Sec. 11. Services described in the 911 Emergency Services
- 27 Communications Act are an essential service and are within the
- 28 governmental powers and authorities of the commission, a local governing
- 29 body, or a public safety agency. The commission, local governing bodies,
- 30 and public safety agencies may provide 911 emergency services
- 31 communication. In contracting for and providing such communication,

- 1 except for failure to use reasonable care or for intentional acts, the
- 2 <u>commission, a local governing body, a public safety agency, and a service</u>
- 3 provider and its employees and agents shall be immune from liability or
- 4 the payment for any damages in the performance of installing,
- 5 maintaining, or providing 911 emergency services communication.
- 6 Sec. 12. The commission may apply for or assist any political
- 7 subdivision in applying for any federal or other funds available for 911
- 8 emergency services communication and may distribute federal funds
- 9 consistent with federal law and other funds consistent with the
- 10 directives, purposes, or conditions of such other funds. Except for
- 11 <u>intentional acts, the commission shall be immune from liability or the</u>
- 12 payment of damages in assisting any political subdivision in applying for
- 13 <u>any such federal funds.</u>
- 14 Sec. 13. (1) Beginning July 1, 2017, each 911 emergency services
- 15 communication provider shall collect a surcharge set by the commission of
- 16 up to seventy cents on all active telephone numbers or functional
- 17 equivalents every month from service users with the capability to
- 18 <u>complete a 911 call and shall remit the surcharge in accordance with</u>
- 19 section 17 of this act.
- 20 (2) A 911 emergency services communication provider is not liable
- 21 for any surcharge not paid by a customer.
- 22 (3) Except as otherwise provided in the 911 Emergency Services
- 23 <u>Communications Act, the 911 emergency services communication provider</u>
- 24 shall add the surcharge to each service user's billing statement. The
- 25 surcharge shall appear as a separate line-item charge on the service
- 26 <u>user's billing statement and shall be labeled as 911 surcharge.</u>
- 27 <u>(4) The surcharge shall not apply to service users who have no 911</u>
- 28 <u>service.</u>
- 29 (5) Funds generated by the surcharge shall be expended only for the
- 30 provision of 911 emergency services communication in this state.
- 31 (6) If a 911 emergency communications provider, except as otherwise

1 provided in this section, resells its service through other entities,

- 2 <u>each reseller shall collect the surcharge from its customers and shall</u>
- 3 <u>remit the surcharge in accordance with this section.</u>
- 4 (7) No service user shall be required to pay more than one 911
- 5 surcharge per number or wireless device.
- 6 (8) The surcharges authorized by this section shall not apply to
- 7 prepaid wireless telecommunications service as defined in section 86-902.
- 8 Sec. 14. The commission shall hold a public hearing annually to
- 9 determine the amount of revenue necessary to carry out the 911 Emergency
- 10 Services Communications Act. After the hearing, the commission shall
- 11 determine the amount of money to be deposited in the fund for the
- 12 following year and shall set the surcharge subject to the limitation in
- 13 section 13 of this act. In an emergency as determined by the commission,
- 14 the commission may adjust the level of the fund, but only after a public
- 15 <u>hearing for such purpose.</u>
- 16 Sec. 15. (1) A public safety answering point or 911 emergency
- 17 <u>services communication provider may be compensated for costs determined</u>
- 18 by the commission to be eligible for funding. The level of funding
- 19 available to each public safety answering point and 911 emergency
- 20 services communication provider for eligible cost compensation may be
- 21 limited based upon the mechanism established by the commission pursuant
- 22 to section 5 of this act. The commission is not required to provide
- 23 compensation for costs to more than one public safety answering point in
- 24 any county. A public safety answering point or 911 emergency services
- 25 communication provider may apply for disbursement from the fund by
- 26 submitting a written application to the commission. The commission shall
- 27 <u>receive and review applications, including supporting documentation. The</u>
- 28 <u>commission shall notify each applicant as to the commission's approval or</u>
- 29 <u>disapproval of the application.</u>
- 30 (2) Each entity that receives a disbursement from the fund shall
- 31 make a full accounting of the money in a manner and form prescribed by

- 1 the commission.
- 2 Sec. 16. (1) A 911 emergency services communication provider shall
- 3 bill the surcharge established by the commission to a service user
- 4 monthly. The surcharge shall be collected as far as practicable at the
- 5 same time as and along with the charges for service in accordance with
- 6 the regular billing practice of the 911 emergency services communication
- 7 provider. A service user shall be liable for any surcharge billed to the
- 8 service user until the surcharge has been paid to the 911 emergency
- 9 services communication provider. A 911 emergency services communication
- 10 provider shall have no obligation to take any legal action to enforce the
- 11 <u>collection of any surcharge. Such action may be brought by or on behalf</u>
- 12 <u>of the commission. A 911 emergency services communication provider shall</u>
- 13 <u>not be liable for such uncollected amounts.</u>
- 14 (2) 911 emergency services communication providers shall collect and
- 15 remit 911 system data as required by the commission to carry out the 911
- 16 Emergency Services Communications Act, such as network performance, call
- 17 processing, network components, or outages.
- 18 (3) The commission may administratively fine pursuant to section
- 19 75-156 any person who violates the act.
- 20 Sec. 17. (1) Each 911 emergency services communication provider
- 21 shall remit monthly to the commission the amounts collected pursuant to
- 22 section 16 of this act together with any forms required by the commission
- 23 no later than sixty days after the last day of the month. The commission
- 24 <u>shall remit the funds to the State Treasurer for credit to the fund.</u>
- 25 (2) As the commission may require, each 911 emergency services
- 26 communication provider shall report to the commission on a quarterly
- 27 <u>basis in a manner prescribed by the commission to ensure the purposes of</u>
- 28 <u>the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act are realized.</u>
- 29 <u>(3) Each 911 emergency services communication provider shall</u>
- 30 maintain records required by the commission pursuant to the section for a
- 31 period of three years after the date of remittance to the fund. The

- 1 commission may require an audit of any provider's books and records
- 2 concerning the collection and remittance of any amounts collected
- 3 pursuant to the act. The costs of an audit required by the commission
- 4 shall, at the commission's discretion, be paid by the audited provider. A
- 5 911 emergency services communication provider shall not be required to
- 6 pay for more than one remittance audit or more than one collection audit
- 7 per year unless the commission orders subsequent audits for good cause.
- 8 <u>(4) Each 911 emergency services communication provider shall comply</u>
- 9 <u>with all commission rules and regulations regarding 911 emergency</u>
- 10 services communication.
- 11 (5) Each 911 emergency services communication provider shall comply
- 12 with this section regardless of whether the 911 emergency services
- 13 communication provider receives reimbursement from the fund. 911
- 14 emergency services communication providers failing to comply with this
- 15 <u>section may be administratively fined by the commission pursuant to</u>
- 16 section 75-156.
- 17 Sec. 18. (1) Each public safety answering point shall report to the
- 18 commission annually (a) the name and location of the public safety
- 19 <u>answering point, (b) how they are complying with any quality assurance</u>
- 20 protocols developed by the commission, (c) an accounting of funds
- 21 received and spent, (d) data required by the commission regarding the
- 22 status and operation of the components of statewide network for 911
- 23 <u>emergency services communication, and (e) any other information requested</u>
- 24 by the commission.
- 25 (2) Nothing in the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act shall
- 26 <u>be construed to prevent two or more local governing bodies or public</u>
- 27 <u>safety answering points from entering into an agreement or memorandum of</u>
- 28 <u>understanding to share costs and resources in the provision of 911</u>
- 29 <u>emergency services communication.</u>
- 30 (3) A public safety answering point, or the commission on behalf of
- 31 any public safety answering point that has designated the commission to

- 1 do so, may enter into a service agreement with one or more 911 emergency
- 2 <u>services communication providers or vendors. The commission shall</u>
- 3 determine the most efficient method for providing 911 emergency services
- 4 communication.
- 5 (4) Information provided by public safety answering points to the
- 6 commission pursuant to the act may be treated as records that may be
- 7 withheld from the public upon request of the party submitting such
- 8 <u>records if the information qualifies under subdivision (5) of section</u>
- 9 84-712.05.
- 10 Sec. 19. The commission shall compile the information required in
- 11 sections 8 and 18 of this act and include it in its annual
- 12 telecommunications report to the Legislature under section 86-163. The
- 13 report may also include a summary of the progress on the implementation
- 14 of a statewide network for 911 emergency services communication, the
- 15 capital improvements and expenditures proposed for the following fiscal
- 16 year, expected 911 surcharge revenue in the following fiscal year, and a
- 17 <u>summary of the 911 surcharge revenue and expenses for the prior fiscal</u>
- 18 year.
- 19 Sec. 20. The commission shall adopt and promulgate rules and
- 20 <u>regulations necessary to carry out the 911 Emergency Services</u>
- 21 Communications Act.
- 22 Sec. 21. The commission may assess a civil penalty pursuant to
- 23 section 75-156 for each violation of any provision of the 911 Emergency
- 24 Services Communications Act or any rule, regulation, or order of the
- 25 commission issued under authority designated to the commission pursuant
- 26 to the act.
- 27 Sec. 22. Section 28-1311, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 28 amended to read:
- 29 28-1311 (1) A person commits the offense of interfering with a
- 30 public service company if he or she willfully and purposely interrupts or
- 31 interferes with the transmission of telecommunications services telegraph

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1 or telephone messages or the transmission of light, heat and power in

- 2 this state.
- 3 (2) Interference with public service companies is a Class II
- 4 misdemeanor.
- 5 Sec. 23. Section 75-109.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 6 2014, is amended to read:
- 7 75-109.01 Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, the
- 8 Public Service Commission shall have jurisdiction, as prescribed, over
- 9 the following subjects:
- 10 (1) Common carriers, generally, pursuant to sections 75-101 to
- 11 75-158;
- 12 (2) Grain pursuant to the Grain Dealer Act and the Grain Warehouse
- 13 Act and sections 89-1,104 to 89-1,108;
- 14 (3) Manufactured homes and recreational vehicles pursuant to the
- 15 Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles;
- 16 (4) Modular housing units pursuant to the Nebraska Uniform Standards
- 17 for Modular Housing Units Act;
- 18 (5) Motor carrier registration and safety pursuant to sections
- 19 75-301 to 75-322, 75-369.03, 75-370, and 75-371;
- 20 (6) Pipeline carriers and rights-of-way pursuant to the Major Oil
- 21 Pipeline Siting Act, the State Natural Gas Regulation Act, and sections
- 22 75-501 to 75-503. If the provisions of Chapter 75 are inconsistent with
- 23 the provisions of the Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act, the provisions of
- 24 the Major Oil Pipeline Siting Act control;
- 25 (7) Railroad carrier safety pursuant to sections 74-918, 74-919,
- 26 74-1323, and 75-401 to 75-430;
- 27 (8) Telecommunications carriers pursuant to <u>the 911 Emergency</u>
- 28 <u>Services Communications Act,</u> the Automatic Dialing-Announcing Devices
- 29 Act, the Emergency Telephone Communications Systems Act, the Enhanced
- 30 Wireless 911 Services Act, the Intrastate Pay-Per-Call Regulation Act,
- 31 the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act, the Nebraska

1 Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act, the Telecommunications

- 2 Relay System Act, the Telephone Consumer Slamming Prevention Act, and
- sections 86-574 to 86-580; 3
- (9) Transmission lines and rights-of-way pursuant to sections 70-301 4
- 5 and 75-702 to 75-724;
- (10) Water service pursuant to the Water Service Regulation Act; and 6
- (11) Jurisdictional utilities governed by the State Natural Gas 7
- Regulation Act. If the provisions of Chapter 75 are inconsistent with the 8
- 9 provisions of the State Natural Gas Regulation Act, the provisions of the
- 10 State Natural Gas Regulation Act control.
- 11 Sec. 24. Section 75-132.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- amended to read: 12
- 13 75-132.01 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 75-131, the
- 14 commission shall have exclusive original jurisdiction over any action
- concerning a violation of any provision of (a) the 911 Emergency Services 15
- 16 Communications Act, the Automatic Dialing-Announcing Devices Act, the
- 17 Emergency Telephone Communications Systems Act, the Enhanced Wireless 911
- Services Act, the Intrastate Pay-Per-Call Regulation Act, the Nebraska 18
- 19 Telecommunications Regulation Act, the Nebraska Telecommunications
- Universal Service Fund Act, the Telecommunications Relay System Act, or 20
- the Telephone Consumer Slamming Prevention Act by any person providing 21
- telecommunications service for a fee in Nebraska intrastate commerce 22
- 23 pursuant to such acts or (b) sections 86-574 to 86-578 by an agency or
- 24 political subdivision of the state.
- 25 (2) If the commission enters an order declining jurisdiction under
- subsection (1) of this section, any interested person may petition the 26
- district court of the county in which such alleged violation has 27
- occurred. If it appears to the court, after a hearing, that a provision 28
- of such acts or sections has been violated, the court may issue an 29
- injunction or other proper process to restrain the telecommunications 30
- company and its directors, officers, employees, or agents or the agency 31

- 1 or political subdivision of the state from continuing such violation and
- 2 may order additional relief. Any party to the case shall have the right
- 3 to appeal the decision of the district court to the Court of Appeals
- 4 under the rules provided by law for appeals in civil cases.
- 5 Sec. 25. Section 75-156, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 6 2014, is amended to read:
- 7 75-156 (1) In addition to other penalties and relief provided by
- 8 law, the Public Service Commission may, upon a finding that the violation
- 9 is proven by clear and convincing evidence, assess a civil penalty of up
- 10 to ten thousand dollars per day against any person, motor carrier,
- 11 regulated motor carrier, common carrier, contract carrier, grain dealer,
- or grain warehouseman for each violation of (a) any provision of the laws
- of this state within the jurisdiction of the commission as enumerated in
- 14 section 75-109.01, (b) any term, condition, or limitation of any
- 15 certificate, permit, or authority issued by the commission pursuant to
- 16 the laws of this state within the jurisdiction of the commission as
- 17 enumerated in section 75-109.01, or (c) any rule, regulation, or order of
- 18 the commission issued under authority delegated to the commission
- 19 pursuant to the laws of this state within the jurisdiction of the
- 20 commission as enumerated in section 75-109.01.
- 21 (2) In addition to other penalties and relief provided by law, the
- 22 Public Service Commission may, upon a finding that the violation is
- 23 proven by clear and convincing evidence, assess a civil penalty not less
- 24 than one hundred dollars and not more than one thousand dollars against
- 25 any jurisdictional utility for each violation of (a) any provision of the
- 26 State Natural Gas Regulation Act, (b) any rule, regulation, order, or
- 27 lawful requirement issued by the commission pursuant to the act, (c) any
- 28 final judgment or decree made by any court upon appeal from any order of
- 29 the commission, or (d) any term, condition, or limitation of any
- 30 certificate issued by the commission issued under authority delegated to
- 31 the commission pursuant to the act. The amount of the civil penalty

- 1 assessed in each case shall be based on the severity of the violation
- 2 charged. The commission may compromise or mitigate any penalty prior to
- 3 hearing if all parties agree. In determining the amount of the penalty,
- 4 the commission shall consider the appropriateness of the penalty in light
- 5 of the gravity of the violation and the good faith of the violator in
- 6 attempting to achieve compliance after notification of the violation is
- 7 given.
- 8 (3) In addition to other penalties and relief provided by law, the
- 9 Public Service Commission may, upon a finding that the violation is
- 10 proven by clear and convincing evidence, assess a civil penalty of up to
- 11 ten thousand dollars per day against any wireless carrier for each
- 12 violation of the Enhanced Wireless 911 Services Act or any rule,
- 13 regulation, or order of the commission issued under authority delegated
- 14 to the commission pursuant to the act<u>or against any 911 emergency</u>
- 15 services communication provider for each violation of the 911 Emergency
- 16 Services Communications Act or any rule, regulation, or order of the
- 17 <u>commission</u> issued under the authority delegated to the commission
- 18 pursuant to the act.
- 19 (4) In addition to other penalties and relief provided by law, the
- 20 Public Service Commission may, upon a finding that the violation is
- 21 proven by clear and convincing evidence, assess a civil penalty of up to
- 22 one thousand dollars against any person for each violation of the
- 23 Nebraska Uniform Standards for Modular Housing Units Act or the Uniform
- 24 Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles or any
- 25 rule, regulation, or order of the commission issued under the authority
- 26 delegated to the commission pursuant to either act. Each such violation
- 27 shall constitute a separate violation with respect to each modular
- 28 housing unit, manufactured home, or recreational vehicle, except that the
- 29 maximum penalty shall not exceed one million dollars for any related
- 30 series of violations occurring within one year from the date of the first
- 31 violation.

- 1 (5) The civil penalty assessed under this section shall not exceed two million dollars per year for each violation except as provided in 2 3 subsection (4) of this section. The amount of the civil penalty assessed in each case shall be based on the severity of the violation charged. The 4 5 commission may compromise or mitigate any penalty prior to hearing if all parties agree. In determining the amount of the penalty, the commission 6 shall consider the appropriateness of the penalty in light of the gravity 7 of the violation and the good faith of the violator in attempting to 8 9 achieve compliance after notification of the violation is given.
- (6) Upon notice and hearing in accordance with this section and 10 section 75-157, the commission may enter an order assessing a civil 11 penalty of up to one hundred dollars against any person, firm, 12 partnership, limited liability company, corporation, cooperative, or 13 14 association for failure to file an annual report or pay the fee as required by section 75-116 and as prescribed by commission rules and 15 16 regulations or for failure to register as required by section 86-125 and as prescribed by commission rules and regulations. Each day during which 17 the violation continues after the commission has issued an order finding 18 that a violation has occurred constitutes a separate offense. Any party 19 aggrieved by an order of the commission under this section may appeal. 20 The appeal shall be in accordance with section 75-136. 21
- (7) When any person or party is accused of any violation listed in 22 this section, the commission shall notify such person or party in writing 23 (a) setting forth the date, facts, and nature of each act or omission 24 upon which each charge of a violation is based, (b) specifically 25 identifying the particular statute, certificate, 26 permit, rule, regulation, or order purportedly violated, (c) that a hearing will be 27 28 held and the time, date, and place of the hearing, (d) that in addition to the civil penalty, the commission may enforce additional penalties and 29 relief as provided by law, and (e) that upon failure to pay any civil 30 penalty determined by the commission, the penalty may be collected by 31

- 1 civil action in the district court of Lancaster County.
- 2 Sec. 26. Section 77-2703.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 3 is amended to read:
- 4 77-2703.04 (1) Except for the telecommunications service defined in
- 5 subsection (3) of this section, the sale of telecommunications service
- 6 sold on a call-by-call basis shall be sourced to (a) each level of taxing
- 7 jurisdiction where the call originates and terminates in that
- 8 jurisdiction or (b) each level of taxing jurisdiction where the call
- 9 either originates or terminates and in which the service address is also
- 10 located.
- 11 (2) Except for the telecommunications service defined in subsection
- 12 (3) of this section, a sale of telecommunications service sold on a basis
- 13 other than a call-by-call basis and ancillary services are sourced to the
- 14 customer's place of primary use.
- 15 (3)(a) For mobile telecommunications service and ancillary services
- 16 provided and billed to a customer by a home service provider:
- 17 (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any local
- 18 ordinance or resolution, such mobile telecommunications service is deemed
- 19 to be provided by the customer's home service provider;
- 20 (ii) All taxable charges for such mobile telecommunications service
- 21 and ancillary services shall be subject to tax by the state or other
- 22 taxing jurisdiction in this state whose territorial limits encompass the
- 23 customer's place of primary use regardless of where the mobile
- 24 telecommunications service originates, terminates, or passes through; and
- 25 (iii) No taxes, charges, or fees may be imposed on a customer with a
- 26 place of primary use outside this state.
- 27 (b) In accordance with the federal Mobile Telecommunications
- 28 Sourcing Act, as such act existed on July 20, 2002, the Tax Commissioner
- 29 may, but is not required to:
- 30 (i) Provide or contract for a tax assignment data base based upon
- 31 standards identified in 4 U.S.C. 119, as such section existed on July 20,

- 1 2002, with the following conditions:
- 2 (A) If such data base is provided, a home service provider shall be
- 3 held harmless for any tax that otherwise would result from any errors or
- 4 omissions attributable to reliance on such data base; or
- 5 (B) If such data base is not provided, a home service provider may
- 6 rely on an enhanced zip code for identifying the proper taxing
- 7 jurisdictions and shall be held harmless for any tax that otherwise would
- 8 result from any errors or omissions attributable to reliance on such
- 9 enhanced zip code if the home service provider identified the taxing
- 10 jurisdiction through the exercise of due diligence and complied with any
- 11 procedures that may be adopted by the Tax Commissioner. Any such
- 12 procedure shall be in accordance with 4 U.S.C. 120, as such section
- 13 existed on July 20, 2002; and
- 14 (ii) Adopt procedures for correcting errors in the assignment of
- 15 primary use that are consistent with 4 U.S.C. 121, as such section
- 16 existed on July 20, 2002.
- 17 (c) If charges for mobile telecommunications service that are not
- 18 subject to tax are aggregated with and not separately stated on the bill
- 19 from charges that are subject to tax, the total charge to the customer
- 20 shall be subject to tax unless the home service provider can reasonably
- 21 separate charges not subject to tax using the records of the home service
- 22 provider that are kept in the regular course of business.
- 23 (d) For purposes of this subsection:
- 24 (i) Customer means an individual, business, organization, or other
- 25 person contracting to receive mobile telecommunications service from a
- 26 home service provider. Customer does not include a reseller of mobile
- 27 telecommunications service or a serving carrier under an arrangement to
- 28 serve the customer outside the home service provider's service area;
- 29 (ii) Home service provider means a telecommunications company as
- 30 defined in section 86-322 that has contracted with a customer to provide
- 31 mobile telecommunications service;

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- 1 (iii) Mobile telecommunications service means wireless 2 communication service carried on between mobile stations or receivers and land stations, and by mobile stations communicating among themselves, and 3 4 includes (A) both one-way and two-way wireless communication services, (B) a mobile service which provides a regularly interacting group of 5 base, mobile, portable, and associated control and relay stations, 6 whether on an individual, cooperative, or multiple basis for private one-7
- 9 designated areas of operation, and (C) any personal communication 10 service;

way or two-way land mobile radio communications by eliqible users over

- (iv) Place of primary use means the street address representative of
  where the customer's use of mobile telecommunications service primarily
  occurs. The place of primary use shall be the residential street address
  or the primary business street address of the customer and shall be
  within the service area of the home service provider; and
- 16 (v) Tax means the sales taxes levied under sections 13-319, 77-2703, 17 and 77-27,142, the surcharges levied under the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act, the Enhanced Wireless 911 Services Act, the Nebraska 18 Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act, and the Telecommunications 19 Relay System Act, and any other tax levied against the customer based on 20 the amount charged to the customer. Tax does not mean an income tax, 21 property tax, franchise tax, or any other tax levied on the home service 22 23 provider that is not based on the amount charged to the customer.
- 24 (4) A sale of post-paid calling service is sourced to the 25 origination point of the telecommunications signal as first identified by 26 either (a) the seller's telecommunications system, or (b) information 27 received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used 28 to transport such signals is not that of the seller.
- (5) A sale of prepaid calling service or a sale of a prepaid wireless calling service is sourced in accordance with section 77-2703.01, except that in the case of a sale of a prepaid wireless

1 calling service, the rule provided in section 77-2703.01 shall include as

- 2 an option the location associated with the mobile telephone number.
- 3 (6) A sale of a private communication service is sourced as follows:
- 4 (a) Service for a separate charge related to a customer channel
- 5 termination point is sourced to each level of jurisdiction in which such
- 6 customer channel termination point is located;
- 7 (b) Service where all customer termination points are located
- 8 entirely within one jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction is sourced in
- 9 such jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are
- 10 located;
- 11 (c) Service for segments of a channel between two customer channel
- 12 termination points located in different jurisdictions and which segments
- of channel are separately charged is sourced fifty percent in each level
- 14 of jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are
- 15 located; and
- 16 (d) Service for segments of a channel located in more than one
- 17 jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction and which segments are not
- 18 separately billed is sourced in each jurisdiction based on the percentage
- 19 determined by dividing the number of customer channel termination points
- 20 in such jurisdiction by the total number of customer channel termination
- 21 points.
- 22 (7) For purposes of this section:
- 23 (a) 800 service means a telecommunications service that allows a
- 24 caller to dial a toll-free number without incurring a charge for the
- 25 call. The service is typically marketed under the name 800, 855, 866,
- 26 877, and 888 toll-free calling, and any subsequent numbers designated by
- 27 the Federal Communications Commission;
- 28 (b) 900 service means an inbound toll telecommunications service
- 29 purchased by a subscriber that allows the subscriber's customers to call
- 30 in to the subscriber's prerecorded announcement or live service. 900
- 31 service does not include the charge for collection services provided by

- 1 the seller of the telecommunications services to the subscriber or
- 2 service or product sold by the subscriber to the subscriber's customer.
- 3 The service is typically marketed under the name 900 service, and any
- 4 subsequent numbers designated by the Federal Communications Commission;
- 5 (c) Air-to-ground radiotelephone service means a radio
- 6 telecommunication service, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. 22.99, as
- 7 such regulation existed on January 1, 2007, in which common carriers are
- 8 authorized to offer and provide radio telecommunications service for hire
- 9 to subscribers in aircraft;
- 10 (d) Ancillary services means services that are associated with or
- 11 incidental to the provision of telecommunications services, including,
- 12 but not limited to, detailed telecommunications billings, directory
- 13 assistance, vertical service, and voice mail services;
- 14 (e) Call-by-call basis means any method of charging for
- 15 telecommunications service where the price is measured by individual
- 16 calls;
- 17 (f) Coin-operated telephone service means a telecommunications
- 18 service paid for by inserting money into a telephone accepting direct
- 19 deposits of money to operate;
- 20 (g) Communications channel means a physical or virtual path of
- 21 communications over which signals are transmitted between or among
- 22 customer channel termination points;
- 23 (h) Conference bridging service means an ancillary service that
- 24 links two or more participants of an audio or video conference call and
- 25 may include the provision of a telephone number. Conference bridging
- 26 service does not include the telecommunications services used to reach
- 27 the conference bridge;
- 28 (i) Customer means the person or entity that contracts with the
- 29 seller of telecommunications service. If the end user of
- 30 telecommunications service is not the contracting party, the end user of
- 31 the telecommunications service is the customer of the telecommunications

- 1 service, but this sentence only applies for the purpose of sourcing sales
- 2 of telecommunications service under this section. Customer does not
- 3 include a reseller of telecommunications service or for mobile
- 4 telecommunications service of a serving carrier under an agreement to
- 5 serve the customer outside the home service provider's licensed service
- 6 area;
- 7 (j) Customer channel termination point means the location where the
- 8 customer either inputs or receives the communications;
- 9 (k) Detailed telecommunications billing service means an ancillary
- 10 service of separately stating information pertaining to individual calls
- on a customer's billing statement;
- 12 (1) Directory assistance means an ancillary service of providing
- 13 telephone number information and address information;
- 14 (m) End user means the person who utilizes the telecommunications
- 15 service. In the case of an entity, end user means the individual who
- 16 utilizes the service on behalf of the entity;
- 17 (n) Fixed wireless service means a telecommunications service that
- 18 provides radio communication between fixed points;
- 19 (o) International means a telecommunications service that originates
- 20 or terminates in the United States and terminates or originates outside
- 21 the United States, respectively. United States includes the District of
- 22 Columbia or a United States territory or possession;
- 23 (p) Interstate means a telecommunications service that originates in
- 24 one state of the United States, or a territory or possession of the
- 25 United States, and terminates in a different state, territory, or
- 26 possession of the United States;
- 27 (q) Intrastate means a telecommunications service that originates in
- 28 one state of the United States, or a territory or possession of the
- 29 United States, and terminates in the same state, territory, or possession
- 30 of the United States;
- 31 (r) Mobile wireless service means a telecommunications service that

- 1 is transmitted, conveyed, or routed regardless of the technology used,
- 2 whereby the origination and termination points of the transmission,
- 3 conveyance, or routing are not fixed, including, by way of example only,
- 4 telecommunications services that are provided by a commercial mobile
- 5 radio service provider;
- 6 (s) Paging service means a telecommunications service that provides
- 7 transmission of coded radio signals for the purpose of activating
- 8 specific pagers. Such transmission may include messages and sounds;
- 9 (t) Pay telephone services means a telecommunications service
- 10 provided through pay telephones;
- 11 (u) Post-paid calling service means the telecommunications service
- 12 obtained by making a payment on a call-by-call basis either through the
- 13 use of a credit card or payment mechanism, such as a bank card, travel
- 14 card, credit card, or debit card, or by a charge made to a telephone
- 15 number which is not associated with the origination or termination of the
- 16 telecommunications service. A post-paid calling service includes a
- 17 telecommunications service, except a prepaid wireless calling service,
- 18 that would be a prepaid calling service except it is not exclusively a
- 19 telecommunications service;
- 20 (v) Prepaid calling service means the right to access exclusively
- 21 telecommunications service, which is paid for in advance and which
- 22 enables the origination of calls using an access number or authorization
- 23 code, whether manually or electronically dialed, and that is sold in
- 24 predetermined units or dollars of which the number declines with use in a
- 25 known amount;
- 26 (w) Prepaid wireless calling service means a telecommunications
- 27 service that provides the right to utilize mobile wireless service as
- 28 well as other nontelecommunications services, including the download of
- 29 digital products delivered electronically, content, and ancillary
- 30 services, which must be paid for in advance, that is sold in
- 31 predetermined units of dollars or which the number declines with use in a

- 1 known amount;
- 2 (x) Private communication service means a telecommunications service
- 3 that entitles the customer to exclusive or priority use of a
- 4 communications channel or group of channels between or among termination
- 5 points, regardless of the manner in which such channel or channels are
- 6 connected, and includes switching capacity, extension lines, stations,
- 7 and any other associated services that are provided in connection with
- 8 the use of such channel or channels;
- 9 (y) Residential telecommunications service means a
- 10 telecommunications service or ancillary services provided to an
- 11 individual for personal use at a residential address, including an
- 12 individual dwelling unit such as an apartment. In the case of
- 13 institutions where individuals reside, such as schools or nursing homes,
- 14 telecommunications service is considered residential if it is provided to
- 15 and paid for by an individual resident rather than the institution;
- 16 (z) Service address means the location of the telecommunications
- 17 equipment to which a customer's call is charged and from which the call
- originates or terminates, regardless of where the call is billed or paid.
- 19 If this location is not known, service address means the origination
- 20 point of the signal of the telecommunications service first identified
- 21 either by the seller's telecommunications system, or in information
- 22 received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used
- 23 to transport such signals is not that of the seller. If both locations
- 24 are not known, the service address means the location of the customer's
- 25 place of primary use;
- 26 (aa) Telecommunications service means the electronic transmission,
- 27 conveyance, or routing of voice, data, audio, video, or any other
- 28 information or signals to a point, or between or among points.
- 29 Telecommunications service includes such transmission, conveyance, or
- 30 routing in which computer processing applications are used to act on the
- 31 form, code, or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission,

- 1 conveyance, or routing without regard to whether such service is referred
- 2 to as voice over Internet protocol services or is classified by the
- 3 Federal Communications Commission as enhanced or value-added.
- 4 Telecommunications service does not include:
- 5 (i) Data processing and information services that allow data to be
- 6 generated, acquired, stored, processed, or retrieved and delivered by an
- 7 electronic transmission to a purchaser when such purchaser's primary
- 8 purpose for the underlying transaction is the processed data or
- 9 information;
- 10 (ii) Installation or maintenance of wiring or equipment on a
- 11 customer's premises;
- 12 (iii) Tangible personal property;
- 13 (iv) Advertising, including, but not limited to, directory
- 14 advertising;
- (v) Billing and collection services provided to third parties;
- 16 (vi) Internet access service;
- 17 (vii) Radio and television audio and video programming services,
- 18 regardless of the medium, including the furnishing of transmission,
- 19 conveyance, and routing of such services by the programming service
- 20 provider. Radio and television audio and video programming services shall
- 21 include, but not be limited to, cable service as defined in 47 U.S.C.
- 22 522, as such section existed on January 1, 2007, and audio and video
- 23 programming services delivered by providers of commercial mobile radio
- 24 service as defined in 47 C.F.R. 20.3, as such regulation existed on
- 25 January 1, 2007;
- 26 (viii) Ancillary services; or
- 27 (ix) Digital products delivered electronically, including, but not
- 28 limited to, software, music, video, reading materials, or ringtones;
- 29 (bb) Value-added, nonvoice data service means a service that
- 30 otherwise meets the definition of telecommunications services in which
- 31 computer processing applications are used to act on the form, content,

- 1 code, or protocol of the information or data primarily for a purpose
- 2 other than transmission, conveyance, or routing;
- 3 (cc) Vertical service means an ancillary service that is offered in
- 4 connection with one or more telecommunications services, which offers
- 5 advanced calling features that allow customers to identify callers and to
- 6 manage multiple calls and call connections, including conference bridging
- 7 services; and
- 8 (dd) Voice mail service means an ancillary service that enables the
- 9 customer to store, send, or receive recorded messages. Voice mail service
- 10 does not include any vertical services that the customer may be required
- 11 to have in order to utilize the voice mail service.
- Sec. 27. Section 84-712.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 13 amended to read:
- 14 84-712.05 The following records, unless publicly disclosed in an
- 15 open court, open administrative proceeding, or open meeting or disclosed
- 16 by a public entity pursuant to its duties, may be withheld from the
- 17 public by the lawful custodian of the records:
- 18 (1) Personal information in records regarding a student, prospective
- 19 student, or former student of any educational institution or exempt
- 20 school that has effectuated an election not to meet state approval or
- 21 accreditation requirements pursuant to section 79-1601 when such records
- 22 are maintained by and in the possession of a public entity, other than
- 23 routine directory information specified and made public consistent with
- 24 20 U.S.C. 1232g, as such section existed on February 1, 2013, and
- 25 regulations adopted thereunder;
- 26 (2) Medical records, other than records of births and deaths and
- 27 except as provided in subdivision (5) of this section, in any form
- 28 concerning any person; records of elections filed under section 44-2821;
- 29 and patient safety work product under the Patient Safety Improvement Act;
- 30 (3) Trade secrets, academic and scientific research work which is in
- 31 progress and unpublished, and other proprietary or commercial information

1 which if released would give advantage to business competitors and serve

- 2 no public purpose;
- 3 (4) Records which represent the work product of an attorney and the
- 4 public body involved which are related to preparation for litigation,
- 5 labor negotiations, or claims made by or against the public body or which
- 6 are confidential communications as defined in section 27-503;
- 7 (5) Records developed or received by law enforcement agencies and
- 8 other public bodies charged with duties of investigation or examination
- 9 of persons, institutions, or businesses, when the records constitute a
- 10 part of the examination, investigation, intelligence information, citizen
- 11 complaints or inquiries, informant identification, or strategic or
- 12 tactical information used in law enforcement training, except that this
- 13 subdivision shall not apply to records so developed or received relating
- 14 to the presence of and amount or concentration of alcohol or drugs in any
- 15 body fluid of any person;
- 16 (6) Appraisals or appraisal information and negotiation records
- 17 concerning the purchase or sale, by a public body, of any interest in
- 18 real or personal property, prior to completion of the purchase or sale;
- 19 (7) Personal information in records regarding personnel of public
- 20 bodies other than salaries and routine directory information;
- 21 (8) Information solely pertaining to protection of the security of
- 22 public property and persons on or within public property, such as
- 23 specific, unique vulnerability assessments or specific, unique response
- 24 plans, either of which is intended to prevent or mitigate criminal acts
- 25 the public disclosure of which would create a substantial likelihood of
- 26 endangering public safety or property; computer or communications network
- 27 schema, passwords, and user identification names; network specifications
- 28 for, or call records collected in, the provision of 911 emergency
- 29 <u>services communication; guard schedules; lock combinations; or public</u>
- 30 utility infrastructure specifications or design drawings the public
- 31 disclosure of which would create a substantial likelihood of endangering

1 public safety or property, unless otherwise provided by state or federal

- 2 law;
- 3 (9) The security standards, procedures, policies, plans,
- 4 specifications, diagrams, access lists, and other security-related
- 5 records of the Lottery Division of the Department of Revenue and those
- 6 persons or entities with which the division has entered into contractual
- 7 relationships. Nothing in this subdivision shall allow the division to
- 8 withhold from the public any information relating to amounts paid persons
- 9 or entities with which the division has entered into contractual
- 10 relationships, amounts of prizes paid, the name of the prize winner, and
- 11 the city, village, or county where the prize winner resides;
- 12 (10) With respect to public utilities and except as provided in
- 13 sections 43-512.06 and 70-101, personally identified private citizen
- 14 account payment and customer use information, credit information on
- others supplied in confidence, and customer lists;
- 16 (11) Records or portions of records kept by a publicly funded
- 17 library which, when examined with or without other records, reveal the
- 18 identity of any library patron using the library's materials or services;
- 19 (12) Correspondence, memoranda, and records of telephone calls
- 20 related to the performance of duties by a member of the Legislature in
- 21 whatever form. The lawful custodian of the correspondence, memoranda, and
- 22 records of telephone calls, upon approval of the Executive Board of the
- 23 Legislative Council, shall release the correspondence, memoranda, and
- 24 records of telephone calls which are not designated as sensitive or
- 25 confidential in nature to any person performing an audit of the
- 26 Legislature. A member's correspondence, memoranda, and records of
- 27 confidential telephone calls related to the performance of his or her
- 28 legislative duties shall only be released to any other person with the
- 29 explicit approval of the member;
- 30 (13) Records or portions of records kept by public bodies which
- 31 would reveal the location, character, or ownership of any known

- 1 archaeological, historical, or paleontological site in Nebraska when
- 2 necessary to protect the site from a reasonably held fear of theft,
- 3 vandalism, or trespass. This section shall not apply to the release of
- 4 information for the purpose of scholarly research, examination by other
- 5 public bodies for the protection of the resource or by recognized tribes,
- 6 the Unmarked Human Burial Sites and Skeletal Remains Protection Act, or
- 7 the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act;
- 8 (14) Records or portions of records kept by public bodies which
- 9 maintain collections of archaeological, historical, or paleontological
- 10 significance which reveal the names and addresses of donors of such
- 11 articles of archaeological, historical, or paleontological significance
- 12 unless the donor approves disclosure, except as the records or portions
- 13 thereof may be needed to carry out the purposes of the Unmarked Human
- 14 Burial Sites and Skeletal Remains Protection Act or the federal Native
- 15 American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act;
- 16 (15) Job application materials submitted by applicants, other than
- 17 finalists, who have applied for employment by any public body as defined
- in section 84-1409. For purposes of this subdivision, (a) job application
- 19 materials means employment applications, resumes, reference letters, and
- 20 school transcripts and (b) finalist means any applicant (i) who reaches
- 21 the final pool of applicants, numbering four or more, from which the
- 22 successful applicant is to be selected, (ii) who is an original applicant
- 23 when the final pool of applicants numbers less than four, or (iii) who is
- 24 an original applicant and there are four or fewer original applicants;
- 25 (16) Records obtained by the Public Employees Retirement Board
- 26 pursuant to section 84-1512;
- 27 (17) Social security numbers; credit card, charge card, or debit
- 28 card numbers and expiration dates; and financial account numbers supplied
- 29 to state and local governments by citizens; and
- 30 (18) Information exchanged between a jurisdictional utility and city
- 31 pursuant to section 66-1867.

1 Sec. 28. Section 86-163, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

- 2 amended to read:
- 3 86-163 The commission shall file with the Clerk of the Legislature
- 4 an annual report on or before September 30 of each year on the status of
- 5 the Nebraska telecommunications industry. The report shall be submitted
- 6 in electronic format. The report shall:
- 7 (1) Describe the quality of telecommunications service being
- 8 provided to the citizens of Nebraska;
- 9 (2) Describe the availability of diverse and affordable
- 10 telecommunications service to all of the people of Nebraska;
- 11 (3) Describe the level of telecommunications service rates;
- 12 (4) Describe the use and continued need for the Nebraska
- 13 Telecommunications Universal Service Fund;
- 14 (5) Describe the availability and location of 911 <u>emergency services</u>
- 15 <u>communication</u> service and E-911 service as required by section 86-437;
- 16 (6) Describe the availability and location of wireless 911 service
- 17 or enhanced wireless 911 service as required by section 86-460;
- 18  $(\underline{6} \ 7)$  Address the need for further legislation to achieve the
- 19 purposes of the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act; and
- 20 (7 8) Address the funding level of the Nebraska Competitive
- 21 Telephone Marketplace Fund and an accounting of commission expenses
- 22 related to its duties under section 86-127.
- 23 Sec. 29. Section 86-435, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 24 amended to read:
- 25 86-435 (1) A governing body may incur any nonrecurring or recurring
- 26 charges for the installation, maintenance, and operation of 911 service
- 27 and shall pay such costs out of general funds which may be supplemented
- 28 by funds from the imposition of a service surcharge. Until July 1, 2017,
- 29  $\underline{a}$  A governing body incurring costs for 911 service may impose a uniform
- 30 service surcharge of up to fifty cents per month on each telephone number
- 31 or functional equivalent of service users whose primary place of use is

- 1 within the governing body's 911 service area, except for those service
- 2 users served by wireless carriers as defined in section 86-456 and those
- 3 service users who have no access to 911 service. The initial service
- 4 surcharge may be imposed at any time subsequent to the execution of an
- 5 agreement for 911 service with a service supplier.
- 6 (2) Except in a county containing a city of the metropolitan class,
- 7 such uniform service surcharge in subsection (1) of this section may be
- 8 increased by an additional amount not to exceed fifty cents per month.
- 9 Such additional increase shall be made only after:
- 10 (a) Publication of notices for a public hearing. Such notices shall:
- 11 (i) Be published at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in
- 12 a legal newspaper published or of general circulation in the areas
- 13 affected;
- 14 (ii) Set forth the time, place, and date of such public hearing; and
- 15 (iii) Set forth the purpose of the public hearing and the purpose of
- 16 the increase; and
- 17 (b) A public hearing is held pursuant to such notices.
- 18 (3) If 911 service is to be provided for a territory which is
- 19 included in whole or in part in the jurisdiction of two or more governing
- 20 bodies, the agreement for such service shall be entered into by each such
- 21 governing body unless any such governing body expressly excludes itself
- 22 from the agreement. Such an agreement shall provide that each governing
- 23 body which is a customer of 911 service will pay for its portion of the
- 24 service. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent two or
- 25 more governing bodies from entering into a contract which establishes a
- 26 separate legal entity for the purpose of entering into such an agreement
- 27 as the customer of the service supplier or any supplier of equipment for
- 28 911 service.
- 29 (4) If a governing body's 911 service area includes a local exchange
- 30 area which intersects governmental boundary lines, the affected
- 31 governmental units may cooperate to provide 911 service through an

- 1 agreement as provided in the Interlocal Cooperation Act or the Joint
- 2 Public Agency Act. The agreement shall provide for the assessment of a
- 3 uniform service surcharge within a governing body's 911 service area. The
- 4 service surcharge on each telephone number or functional equivalent of
- 5 service users whose primary place of use is within the governing body's
- 6 911 service area, except for those service users served by wireless
- 7 carriers as defined in section 86-456 and those service users who have no
- 8 access to 911 service, shall be the same as the amount allowed in
- 9 subsections (1) and (2) of this section.
- 10 (5) Funds generated by the service surcharge shall be expended only
- 11 for the purchase, installation, maintenance, and operation of
- 12 telecommunications equipment and telecommunications-related services
- 13 required for the provision of 911 service.
- 14 Sec. 30. Section 86-438, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 15 amended to read:
- 16 86-438 Each calendar year through 2017, the governing body shall
- 17 establish the rate of the service surcharge, not to exceed the amount
- 18 authorized by section 86-435, that together with any surplus revenue
- 19 carried forward will produce sufficient revenue to fund the expenditures
- 20 described in section 86-421. Amounts collected in excess of such
- 21 necessary expenditures within a given year shall be carried forward to
- 22 the next year. A governing body shall make its determination of the rate
- 23 no later than September 1 of each year and, if it is a new rate, shall
- 24 fix the new rate to take effect commencing with the first billing period
- 25 of each service user on or following the next January 1. The governing
- 26 body shall notify by certified or registered mail every service supplier
- 27 of any change in the rate at least ninety days before the new rate
- 28 becomes effective.
- 29 Sec. 31. Section 86-457, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 30 amended to read:
- 31 86-457 (1) <u>Until July 1, 2017, each</u> <del>Each</del> wireless carrier shall

1 collect:

- 2 (a) A surcharge of up to seventy cents, except as provided in
- 3 subdivision (1)(b) of this subsection, on all active telephone numbers or
- 4 functional equivalents every month from users of wireless service and
- 5 shall remit the surcharge in accordance with section 86-459; or
- 6 (b) A surcharge of up to fifty cents on all active telephone numbers
- 7 or functional equivalents every month from users of wireless service
- 8 whose primary place of use is in a county containing a city of the
- 9 metropolitan class and shall remit the surcharge in accordance with
- 10 section 86-459.
- 11 The wireless carrier is not liable for any surcharge not paid by a
- 12 customer.
- 13 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the wireless
- 14 carrier shall add the surcharge to each user's billing statement. The
- 15 surcharge shall appear as a separate line-item charge on the user's
- 16 billing statement and shall be labeled as "Enhanced Wireless 911
- 17 Surcharge" or a reasonable abbreviation of such phrase.
- 18 (3) If a wireless carrier, except as otherwise provided in this
- 19 section, resells its service through other entities, each reseller shall
- 20 collect the surcharge from its customers and shall remit the surcharge in
- 21 accordance with section 86-459.
- 22 (4) The surcharges authorized by this section shall not apply to
- 23 prepaid wireless telecommunications service as defined in section 86-902.
- 24 (5) This section shall not apply to users who have no 911 service.
- 25 Sec. 32. Section 86-463, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 26 amended to read:
- 27 86-463 The Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund is created. The fund shall
- 28 consist of the surcharges credited to the fund, any money appropriated by
- 29 the Legislature, any federal funds received for wireless emergency
- 30 communication, and any other funds designated for credit to the fund.
- 31 Money in the fund shall be used for the costs of administering the fund,

- 1 for and the purposes specified in section 86-465, and for purposes of the
- 2 911 Emergency Services Communications Act, unless otherwise directed by
- 3 federal law with respect to any federal funds. The costs of administering
- 4 the fund shall be kept to a minimum. The money in the fund shall not be
- 5 subject to any fiscal-year limitation or lapse provision of unexpended
- 6 balance at the end of any fiscal year or biennium. Interest accruing to
- 7 the fund from invested fund balances may be transferred to the General
- 8 Fund at the direction of the Legislature through June 30, 2010. Any money
- 9 in the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund available for investment shall be
- 10 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital
- 11 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. The State
- 12 <u>Treasurer shall transfer any money in the fund on June 30, 2017, to the</u>
- 13 <u>911 Emergency Services Communication Fund.</u>
- 14 Sec. 33. Section 86-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 15 amended to read:
- 16 86-903 (1) The Department of Revenue shall determine the prepaid
- 17 wireless surcharge annually, effective January 1, based on the charges
- 18 described in subsection (2) of this section as in effect on the preceding
- 19 July 1. The department shall provide not less than ninety days' advance
- 20 notice of any change in the prepaid wireless surcharge on the
- 21 department's web site.
- 22 (2) The prepaid wireless surcharge shall be the sum of the following
- 23 two percentages, rounded up to the nearest tenth of one percent:
- 24 (a) The percentage obtained by dividing (i) the amount of the
- 25 wireless E-911 surcharge authorized under section 13 of this act
- 26 subdivision (1)(b) of section 86-457 by (ii) fifty; and
- 27 (b) The percentage obtained by dividing (i) the amount of the
- 28 Nebraska Telecommunications Relay System Fund surcharge set by the Public
- 29 Service Commission pursuant to the Telecommunications Relay System Act by
- 30 (ii) fifty.
- 31 (3) Each Beginning January 1, 2013, each seller shall collect the

1 prepaid wireless surcharge from the consumer with respect to each retail

- 2 transaction occurring in this state. The seller shall disclose the amount
- 3 of the prepaid wireless surcharge either separately on an invoice,
- 4 receipt, or other similar document that is provided to the consumer by
- 5 the seller or otherwise. A retail transaction that is effected in person
- 6 by a consumer at a business location of the seller shall be treated as
- 7 occurring in this state if that business location is in this state, and
- 8 any other retail transaction shall be treated as occurring in this state
- 9 if the retail transaction is treated as occurring in this state for
- 10 purposes of section 77-2703.
- 11 (4) The prepaid wireless surcharge is the liability of the consumer
- 12 and not of the seller or of any provider, except that the seller shall be
- 13 liable to remit all prepaid wireless surcharges that the seller collects
- 14 from consumers as provided in section 86-904, including all such charges
- 15 that the seller is deemed to collect when the amount of the charge has
- 16 not been separately stated on an invoice, receipt, or other similar
- document provided to the consumer by the seller.
- 18 (5) The amount of the prepaid wireless surcharge that is collected
- 19 by a seller from a consumer, whether or not such amount is separately
- 20 stated on an invoice, receipt, or other similar document provided to the
- 21 consumer by the seller, shall not be included in the base for measuring
- 22 any tax, fee, surcharge, or other charge that is imposed by this state,
- 23 any political subdivision of this state, or any intergovernmental agency.
- 24 (6) For purposes of subsection (3) of this section, when prepaid
- 25 wireless telecommunications service is sold with one or more other
- 26 products or services for a single, non-itemized price, the seller shall
- 27 elect to treat the price of the prepaid wireless telecommunications
- 28 service (a) as such entire non-itemized price, (b) if the amount of
- 29 prepaid wireless telecommunications service is disclosed to the consumer
- 30 as a dollar amount, as such dollar amount, or (c) if the retailer can
- 31 identify the portion of the price that is attributable to the prepaid

- 1 wireless telecommunications service by reasonable and verifiable
- 2 standards from its books and records that are kept in the regular course
- 3 of business for other purposes, including, but not limited to, nontax
- 4 purposes, as such portion. If the amount of prepaid wireless
- 5 telecommunications service is denominated as ten minutes or less or as
- 6 five dollars or less, the seller may elect not to collect any prepaid
- 7 wireless surcharge with respect to the retail transaction.
- 8 Sec. 34. Sections 33 and 36 of this act become operative on July 1,
- 9 2017. The other sections of this act become operative on their effective
- 10 date.
- 11 Sec. 35. Original sections 28-1311, 75-132.01, 77-2703.04,
- 12 84-712.05, 86-163, 86-435, 86-438, 86-457, and 86-463, Reissue Revised
- 13 Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 75-109.01 and 75-156, Revised Statutes
- 14 Cumulative Supplement, 2014, are repealed.
- 15 Sec. 36. Original section 86-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 16 Nebraska, is repealed.