

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

Legislative Document

No. 2088

H.P. 1476

House of Representatives, March 21, 2006

**Resolve, Concerning the Collection of the Statewide E-9-1-1
Surcharge from Prepaid Wireless Telephone Service**

Reported by Representative BLISS of South Portland for the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy pursuant to Resolve 2005, chapter 62, section 3.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

1 **Sec. 1. Prepaid wireless stakeholder group. Resolved:** That the Public
2 Utilities Commission shall form and participate in a stakeholder group to define an
3 appropriate amount of and means of collecting and remitting an E-9-1-1 surcharge under
4 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, chapter 352 on prepaid wireless telephone service.
5 The stakeholder group must include a representative of the Emergency Services
6 Communication Bureau within the commission and a representative of the Office of the
7 Public Advocate. The commission shall also invite participation by representatives of
8 providers of prepaid wireless telephone service that do not also provide post-paid wireless
9 telephone service, providers of post-paid wireless telephone service that also offer
10 prepaid wireless telephone service, national retail store chains that sell prepaid wireless
11 telephone service offered by service providers, local businesses that sell prepaid wireless
12 telephone service offered by service providers and any other entities the commission
13 believes should be included to ensure adequate and appropriate stakeholder
14 representation; and be it further

15 **Sec. 2. Issues examined. Resolved:** That the stakeholder group shall consider
16 ways of calculating the E-9-1-1 surcharge to achieve reasonable equivalency with the
17 surcharge imposed on other telecommunications services and means of collecting the
18 surcharge that are competitively neutral, but the stakeholder group may consider and
19 examine any means of collecting and remitting the surcharge that it determines
20 appropriate.

21 The stakeholder group shall consider costs, flexibility, efficiencies and enforcement
22 of the means of collecting and remitting the surcharge from the perspective of the
23 commission, service providers, retailers and end users; and be it further

24 **Sec. 3. Report; authority to report out legislation. Resolved:** That the
25 Public Utilities Commission shall report to the joint standing committee of the
26 Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by January 1, 2007 the
27 results of and recommendations produced by the stakeholder group. The report must
28 include suggested legislation to implement any recommendations of the stakeholder
29 group. If the stakeholder group fails to reach agreement or if for any other reason the
30 commission determines it appropriate to provide its own separate recommendations on
31 the subject matter of this resolve, the commission may include its own analysis and
32 recommendations in the report, including any suggested legislation to implement its
33 recommendations.

34 The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and
35 energy matters may report out legislation relating to the subject matter of this resolve to
36 the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

37 **SUMMARY**

38 This resolve is reported by the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy
39 pursuant to Resolve 2005, chapter 62, section 3.

40 This resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to form a stakeholder group to
41 define an appropriate amount of and means of collecting and remitting an E-9-1-1
42 surcharge on prepaid wireless telephone service. The commission is directed to submit a
43 report of the stakeholder group's recommendations to the joint standing committee of the

1 Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by January 1, 2007. The
2 resolve authorizes the commission to offer its own recommendations on the subject if the
3 stakeholder group fails to reach agreement or the commission otherwise determines it
4 appropriate to supply its own separate recommendations. The joint standing committee
5 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters is authorized to
6 report out legislation relating to the subject matter of this resolve to the First Regular
7 Session of the 123rd Legislature.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



Approved: 03/20/06 *MAC*

122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2088

LR 3248(01)

Resolve, Concerning the Collection Of The Statewide E-9-1-1 Surcharge From Prepaid Wireless Services

**Fiscal Note for Committee Bill
Committee: Utilities and Energy
Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds