



Illinois Commerce Commission

NEWS

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WETSA/9-1-1 Funding Approved by Illinois General Assembly, Governor

SPRINGFIELD –Governor Bruce Rauner has signed legislation approving the release of nearly \$2 billion in funds owed to local governing bodies that includes funding for 9-1-1 services via the [Wireless Emergency Telephone Safety Act \(WETSA\)](#).

Following overwhelming approval in the House and Senate, the measure will provide \$77 million in WETSA funding for 9-1-1 facilities throughout the state.

The ICC is the agency that administers the collection and distribution of fees collected by wireless carriers for the purpose of funding emergency access to wireless 9-1-1 services, but effective January 1, 2016, the Illinois State Police will assume the role.

A 73 cent monthly surcharge is assessed on all wireless telephones outside of the city of Chicago (Chicago is exempt and has its own surcharge). Of this amount, 65 cents goes to the Wireless Services Emergency Fund for grants to meet the expenses of 9-1-1 systems. County 9-1-1 systems with under 100,000 residents receive 2 cents and the program administrator receives 1 cent.

The bill is SB2039. For complete details, go to www.ilga.gov.

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About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission's mission is to pursue an appropriate balance between the interests of consumers and existing and emerging service providers to ensure the provision of adequate, efficient, reliable, safe and least-cost public utility services. The Commission pursues this mission through three bureaus: The Bureau of External Affairs, which provides educational information on utility issues for consumers, governmental entities and communities and through its Consumer Services Division, resolves customer/utility disputes and develops rules on utility service and consumer protection; the Public Utilities Bureau, which focuses on financial and operational analysis, policy development, public safety and enforcement activities related to electric, natural gas, water, sewer and telecommunications companies; and the Transportation Bureau, which includes

trucking insurance and registration, railroad safety, relocation towing, safety towing and household goods moving company enforcement activities. The ICC's five commissioners are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Illinois State Senate for five-year terms.