

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 5, 1999

SENATE BILL

No. 983

Introduced by Senator Bowen

February 26, 1999

An act to ~~amend~~ *repeal and add* Section 2892 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 983, as amended, Bowen. Telecommunications: commercial mobile radio service: emergency calls.

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission to require that every facilities-based cellular service provider provide access for end users on its system to the local emergency telephone services described in a specified provision of the Warren-911-Emergency Assistance Act, that they utilize the "911" code as the primary access number for those services, and that "911" calls from cellular units be routed to the nearest appropriate California Highway Patrol communications center.

~~This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change in those provisions.~~

This bill would repeal the above provisions and instead would require that a provider of commercial mobile radio service, as defined in specified federal law, provide access for end users of that service to the local emergency telephone systems described in the act, that "911" be the primary access number for those services, and that user validation or any similar procedure not be required. The bill would require that a provider of commercial mobile radio service not charge any

airtime, access, or similar usage charge for any “911” call placed from a commercial mobile radio service telecommunications device to a local emergency telephone system. The bill would require a “911” call from a commercial mobile radio service telecommunications device to be routed to the Department of the California Highway Patrol.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. Section 2892 of the Public Utilities Code~~
2 ~~SECTION 1. Section 2892 of the Public Utilities Code~~
3 ~~is repealed.~~
4 ~~2892. The commission shall, by rule or order, require~~
5 ~~that every facilities-based cellular service provider~~
6 ~~provide access for end users on its system to the local~~
7 ~~emergency telephone services described in Section 53100~~
8 ~~of the Government Code, that they shall utilize the “911”~~
9 ~~code as the primary access number for those services, and~~
10 ~~that “911” calls from cellular units shall be routed to the~~
11 ~~nearest appropriate California Highway Patrol~~
12 ~~communications center. In addition, the commission, by~~
13 ~~rule or order, shall require that every cellular service~~
14 ~~provider include in its tariffs a provision to the effect that~~
15 ~~there shall be no airtime or similar usage charge for calls~~
16 ~~placed from a cellular unit to the emergency telephone~~
17 ~~services system.~~
18 ~~SEC. 2. Section 2892 is added to the Public Utilities~~
19 ~~Code, to read:~~
20 ~~2892. (a) As used in this section, the term~~
21 ~~“commercial mobile radio service” has the same meaning~~
22 ~~as the term “commercial mobile service,” as defined in~~
23 ~~subsection (d) of Section 332 of Title 47 of the United~~
24 ~~States Code.~~
25 ~~(b) A provider of commercial mobile radio service~~
26 ~~shall provide access for end users of that service to the~~
27 ~~local emergency telephone systems described in the~~
28 ~~Warren-911-Emergency Assistance Act (Article 6~~
29 ~~(commencing with Section 53100) of Chapter 1 of Part 1~~

1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code). “911”
2 shall be the primary access number for those emergency
3 systems. A provider of commercial mobile radio service,
4 in accordance with all applicable Federal
5 Communication Commission orders, shall transmit all
6 “911” calls from technologically compatible commercial
7 mobile radio service communication devices without
8 requiring user validation or any similar procedure. A
9 provider of commercial mobile radio service shall not
10 charge any airtime, access, or similar usage charge for any
11 “911” call placed from a commercial mobile radio service
12 telecommunications device to a local emergency
13 telephone system.

14 (c) A “911” call from a commercial mobile radio
15 service telecommunications device shall be routed to the
16 Department of the California Highway Patrol.

17 is amended to read:

18 2892. ~~The commission shall, by rule or order, require~~
19 ~~that every facilities-based cellular service provider~~
20 ~~provide access for end users on its system to the local~~
21 ~~emergency telephone services described in Section 53100~~
22 ~~of the Government Code, that they shall utilize the “911”~~
23 ~~code as the primary access number for those services, and~~
24 ~~that “911” calls from cellular units shall be routed to the~~
25 ~~nearest appropriate Department of the California~~
26 ~~Highway Patrol communications center. In addition, the~~
27 ~~commission, by rule or order, shall require that every~~
28 ~~cellular service provider include in its tariffs a provision~~
29 ~~to the effect that there shall be no airtime or similar usage~~
30 ~~charge for calls placed from a cellular unit to the~~
31 ~~emergency telephone services system.~~