

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE STANDING COMMITTEE

February 17, 2005

1:28 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Con Bunde, Chair
Senator Ralph Seekins, Vice Chair
Senator Johnny Ellis

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Bettye Davis

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

SENATE BILL NO. 100

"An Act relating to enhanced 911 surcharges imposed by a municipality."

MOVED CSSB 100(L&C) OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: SB 100

SHORT TITLE: ENHANCED 911 SURCHARGES

SPONSOR(s): SENATOR(s) BUNDE

02/10/05	(S)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/10/05	(S)	L&C, CRA
02/15/05	(S)	L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 211
02/15/05	(S)	Heard & Held
02/15/05	(S)	MINUTE(L&C)
02/17/05	(S)	L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 211

WITNESS REGISTER

Lauren Wickersham
Staff to Senator Con Bunde
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
POSITION STATEMENT: Commented on SB 100.

Walt Monegan, Chief
Anchorage Police Department
Anchorage AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Supported SB 100.

Tim Rogers

Alaska Municipal League (AMA)

POSITION STATEMENT: Supported SB 100.

Paul Harris

Fairbanks Police Department

Fairbanks AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Supported SB 100.

ACTION NARRATIVE

CHAIR CON BUNDE called the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting to order at [1:34:31 PM](#). Present were Senators Seekins, Ellis and Chair Con Bunde.

^#SB100

SB 100-ENHANCED 911 SURCHARGES

CHAIR CON BUNDE announced SB 100 to be up for consideration.

SENATOR RALHP SEEKINS asked what the definition of a local exchange access line is.

MS. LAUREN WICKERSHAM, staff to Chair Bunde, read from AS29.35.133 (4) that a local exchange access line means a telephone line that connects a local exchange service customer or the local telephone company's switching office. It has the capability of reaching local public safety agencies, but does not include a line used by a carrier to provide inner exchange services.

[1:36:23 PM](#)

SENATOR SEEKINS asked if Bartlett Hospital has an extension in 50 rooms, do they have 50 local exchange access lines. Someone indicated yes.

MS. WICKERSHAM added under current statute you only get charged for the first 100 lines.

CHAIR BUNDE pointed out that there are already access charges, but this bill only changes the amount charged for them.

[1:37:26 PM](#)

SENATOR ELLIS asked if the committee resolved any differences between the terms call center and dispatch.

MS. WICKERSHAM replied that a call center is under the definition of 911 service; the dispatch center is under the police department duties. A call first comes into the call center and it sends that call to the appropriate state dispatch center - two different things. The call center is covered under the 911 surcharge; the money required to run a dispatch center is not.

WALT MONEGAN, Chief, Anchorage Police Department, supported SB 100.

[1:39:34 PM](#)

TIM ROGERS, Alaska Municipal League, supported SB 100 and said he would respond to questions.

CHAIR BUNDE asked if they both were comfortable going with the call center being the focus of this bill.

CHIEF MONEGAN replied yes.

[1:40:13 PM](#)

MR. DAVID GIBBS, Administrator, Kenai 911 program, said the present surcharge revenue is insufficient to cover the costs to provide the required services. The Kenai Borough prefers that the assembly sets the surcharge rate.

CHAIR BUNDE responded that the local government can set the rate beyond the \$2 cap with a public vote.

MR GIBBS reiterated that they prefer to have the assembly set that rate.

[1:41:12 PM](#)

MR. PAUL HARRIS, Fairbanks Police Department, supported the concept, but with a \$3 cap.

[1:42:34 PM](#)

SENATOR SEEKINS moved to pass CSSB 100(L&C), version Y, from committee with individual recommendations and zero fiscal note. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

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There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair Bunde adjourned the meeting at [1:43:49 PM](#).

